

Barack Obama

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 - 1 They did not like the racism that they saw in Texas. They wanted to move to a part of the country where people had more liberal ideas about race and religion.
 - 2 Ann was a curious girl who loved to read about other cultures, explore new ways of thinking and talk to her friends about how to improve the world. She was a very good student.
 - 3 Ann was white and Barack Sr. was black.
 - 4 Because the Harvard University scholarship would only pay enough for Barack Sr. to live in Boston.
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 - 1 Indonesia was not a peaceful country. It was very, very hot. The animals and food were strange and different. It was a very poor country.
 - 2 Barack's stepfather, Lolo, sometimes took him to the mosque. He heard stories from the Bible at a Catholic school and later he studied the Muslim Qur'an in a government school.
 - 3 She taught him English and other lessons from a correspondence course. She also taught him about honesty, fairness, kindness and about his African heritage and the campaign for civil rights in the U.S.A.
 - 4 Lolo was not the same man that Ann married in Hawaii. He had changed, but Ann had not, and she no longer felt that she had a future with him.
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 - 1 It was a private preparatory (prep) school and one of the best schools in Hawaii.
 - 2 His father was not the successful and important man that Barack imagined. He was thin, weak and no longer ambitious.
 - 3 Barack Sr. had told Gramps and Toot that they were not looking after their grandson in the right way, and Gramps was not happy to be criticized by a guest in his house.
 - 4 Because he thought that all his lies about his father would be discovered.
 - 5 He helped him to understand his African heritage by taking him to places where there were black men.
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 - 1 The fight to end apartheid in South Africa.
 - 2 He discovered that he had a talent for public speaking and that he could inspire, influence and persuade people with his words.
 - 3 He grew up at Occidental College. He became an adult. He understood the importance of fairness, justice and helping the oppressed people in the world. He gradually became more serious about his studies. He became more serious and responsible. He learned to control the events of his life rather than be controlled by them.
 - 4 Because Columbia University was one of the most respected universities in the United States and known for its public policy courses. He also wanted to experience the rich African-American culture of Harlem.
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 - 1 He moved apartments a lot, most of which were small and unattractive. He led a quiet life of study and reading. He also spent long hours exercising and sometimes went to church.
 - 2 He started to understand the important and powerful role they played in the struggle for civil rights. They also offered a feeling of community that he longed for— a feeling of being confident in who you were and where you belonged.
 - 3 Barack Sr. was not guilty of abandoning his family in Hawaii. It was she who had left him. He had asked her to come with their son to Kenya after his graduation from Harvard, but she had refused.
 - 4 He had not grown up among poor blacks in any city. His background was middle class, white and Hawaiian. His ancestors were not slaves. He was the son of a Harvard educated Kenyan economist.

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- 1 Because he was a handsome black man who was successful in the white world.
 - 2 Because he thought Barack would be wasting his time and that he should do something that would make money instead.
 - 3 The death of his half brother, David.
 - 4 Because Barack was an ambitious, educated black man who wanted the job and was willing to work for the low salary of \$10,000 that the job offered.
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- 1 Because in the 1980s, many large companies based there, such as U.S. Steel and Wisconsin Steel, had closed.
 - 2 They are groups of apartment buildings built mostly between the 1930s and 1960s, originally intended to replace the slums with safe, new, modern housing with very low rents which the poor could afford. However, many housing projects became crowded, high-rise buildings full of crime, drugs and gangs, where things didn't work and repairs took a long time or sometimes weren't done at all.
 - 3 There were not enough good jobs.
 - 4 Because he started to think that being a community organizer was not the best way to make a difference in people's lives. He realized that government had the power.
 - 5 He decided to become a politician. First, he needed to study law and become a lawyer.
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- 1 There were big streets, big buildings, American fast food restaurants and many, many black people.
 - 2 With great pride.
 - 3 Meeting Granny at the family home.
 - 4 He felt he finally understood the African side of his background.
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- 1 She saw that Barack was bright and ambitious, that he cared about people who were poor or who had difficult lives, and that he was a man who was going to go far in life.
 - 2 Because he listened to, and thought about, both sides in personal and political discussions.
 - 3 Because with this law firm he could gain the legal knowledge he needed to help the poor and disadvantaged, and because working for them in Chicago would allow him to be near Michelle.
 - 4 First he wanted to work as the director of Project Vote, a program that was created to register new voters in Chicago.
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- 1 Illinois state senator.
 - 2 The purpose of a primary election is to choose a candidate from a political party who will then run against a candidate who has won another party's primary. Because Obama's district on the South Side of Chicago was mainly Democratic, the primary was very important because the winner was almost certain to win the general election that followed.
 - 3 African-Americans had difficulty believing Obama when he said that he understood their lives and troubles. Obama had not grown up in the poor, black areas of America and was well educated. Obama, they said, was an outsider – a Hawaiian newcomer to Chicago.
 - 4 He described it as a 'dumb war'. He had to be careful because in the future he might also need the support of conservative white Americans, many of whom were in favour of the war.
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- 1 David Axelrod. Axelrod had a long and successful history of helping Democrats win elections. Many Democratic politicians wanted Axelrod's help, and he could have worked with a number of candidates in Illinois or other states.
 - 2 The first type tried to appeal to white voters by focusing on Obama's Harvard education. The second type appealed to black voters by focusing on his work as a community organizer.
 - 3 In Obama's past elections in Chicago, the Democratic winner of the primary had almost always won the general election because there were few Republican voters there. However, the U.S. Senate election was more difficult because it covered the whole state of Illinois, and the Republican Party was strong in the suburbs of Chicago and the rest of the state.
 - 4 He meant that people with different political views and people of different races should unite and work together.

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- 1 Because he wanted people to see him as a serious, hard-working senator, not as a 'rock star'.
 - 2 It means that looking for areas where people could agree and work together had worked better for Obama than fighting with people and trying to defeat them.
 - 3 Many Americans were impressed with what Obama had said. They saw that he was not a typical black leader who could not think further than the racial politics of the past, but rather a leader who happened to be black and cared about Americans of all races.
 - 4 He was treated like a visiting prince.
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- 1 That he was too young and that he did not have enough experience.
 - 2 The state of Iowa's primary comes first and New Hampshire's follows just a few days later. The winners of the Iowa and New Hampshire primaries receive a lot of media attention and often have a very good chance of winning their party's nomination.
 - 3 Videotape of some sermons that Jeremiah Wright, Obama's friend and the pastor of Obama's church, had made was shown on television news programs. They showed Wright strongly criticizing the United States for its 'racism' and 'terrorism'. Obama spoke about it in a speech called *A More Perfect Union*, saying that he had not been in Wright's church when the comments were made and that he did not agree with them. When Wright later repeated the comments, Obama said that he was going to leave Wright's church and would not see him again.
 - 4 For the time he was in the armed forces in the Vietnam War, where he had been a prisoner of war for five years, and for not being afraid to stand up for his beliefs even when it was unpopular with other Republicans.
 - 5 He chose Alaska governor Sarah Palin to be his vice presidential running mate.
 - 6 He meant that if another Republican president (McCain) were elected, his four years in office would be the same as the last eight years under President Bush, and that would not be good for the country.