

José Mujica: The World's Poorest President

- 1 José Mujica, the former president of Uruguay, passed away on May 13 at the age of 89. He was known around the world as “the world’s poorest president” because of his simple lifestyle.
- 2 Though he was president, he lived on a small farm, drove an old car, and donated 90% of his salary to charity. He believed that living simply gave him more freedom and peace.
- 3 Mujica was Uruguay’s president from 2010 to 2015. During this time, he worked hard to make people’s lives better. He raised the minimum wage and started housing programs for poor families. As a result, the poverty rate of Uruguay went down from 18.5% to 9.8%.
- 4 He also focused on promoting the use of renewable energy, including hydropower, solar power, wind power, biomass energy, and geothermal energy. Thanks to his efforts, about 98% of Uruguay’s electricity now comes from these clean energy sources.
- 5 Many people respected Mujica. Even after his death, his words and actions continue to inspire people around the world.

former 元～ pass away 亡くなる at the age of ～:～歳で simple 質素な Though ～, :～けれど
donate 寄付する salary 給料 minimum wage 最低賃金 housing 住宅 poverty rate 貧困率
focus 集中する promote 推し進める renewable 再生可能の including ～:～を含めて effort 努力
electricity 電気 energy source エネルギー源 inspire 刺激・影響を与える ★()

Q1 Which country was Mujica the president of? Please find that country on the world map.)

Q2 What was José Mujica’s nickname around the world? And why?

Q3 When Mujica was a president,

(1) Where did he live?

(2) What kind of car did Mujica drive?

(3) What did he do with most of his salary?

Q4 Why did Mujica choose to live simply?

Q5 When was Mujica the president of Uruguay?

Q6 ムヒカさんは大統領在任中、貧困対策として何を行いましたか。2つ書きましょう。

Q7 How did the poverty rate change during Mujica’s time as president?

Q8 ムヒカさんが推進した再生可能エネルギーを、5種類、答えましょう。

Q9 これらの再生可能エネルギーは、石油やガスと違って、どのような利点がありますか。

Q10 What percentage of Uruguay’s electricity comes from clean energy now?

Q11 Do you think Mujica was a good leader? Why or why not? (Give your opinion in 1–2 sentences.)

Q12 次のアメリカ人中学生 Sam のメールにお返事を書いて下さい。

Subject: What Do You Think About Mujica?

Hi, I just read an article about José Mujica, the former president of Uruguay.

I think he was an amazing leader!

I have two questions:

1. Do you think Japanese leaders should also live simply like Mujica?
2. What kind of energy does Japan use most—clean energy or something else?

In the U.S, about 40% of energy comes from fossil fuels. But renewable energy is also increasing. It now makes up about 20%, especially from wind and solar power.

I hope we can keep sharing ideas like this!

Sam

◆次の文を暗唱しましょう。

1. Though he was a president, he lived in a small farm.
2. He was called the poorest president.
3. Uruguay lives on clean energy.

今日の文法（１）接続詞 though

◆【Though 主語 + 動詞 ,】で「～けれども、～にもかかわらず」を意味します。

- ① Though it was cold, I went out. (= It was cold, but I went out.)
- ② She finished her homework, though she was tired. (= She was tired, but she finished her homework.)
- ③ Though I don't like fish, I ate it. (= I don't like fish, but I ate it.)

1 次の空欄に、though または but を入れましょう。

- ① 彼は大統領だったが、小さな農場に住み、古い車を運転していた。

He was president, _____ he lived on a small farm and drove an old car.

- ② 権力があつたが、質素な生活を選んだ。

_____ he had power, he chose to live a simple life.

- ③ 彼は給料をもらっていたが、そのほとんどを寄付した。

He earned a salary, _____ he gave most of it to charity.

- ④ 彼は貧しそうに見えたが、世界中の人々に尊敬されていた。

_____ he looked poor, people around the world respected him.

- ⑤ 彼は亡くなったが、その考えは今も多くの人々を励ましている。

He is gone, _____ his ideas still inspire many people.

今日の文法（２）最上級

最上級 A is the ~est. (A は最も～です)

A is the most ~.

- 1) 彼は世界で最も優しい指導者でした。

He was () () leader in the world.

- 2) ムヒカにとって最も大切なことは、貧しい人々を助けることでした。

() () () thing for Mujica was helping poor people.

- 3) 彼のあだ名は「世界で一番貧しい大統領」でした。

His nickname was “() () president” in the world.

- 4) 彼はすべての大統領の中で最も質素な生活をしていました。

He lived () () life among all presidents.

- 5) 風力発電は、全ての中で最もきれいなエネルギー源の一つです。

Wind power is one of () () energy sources of all.

- 6) ムヒカはすべての指導者の中で最も多くのお金を寄付しました。

Mujica gave () () money to charity among all leaders.

- 7) 質素に生きることは、自由と平和を保つ最善の方法かもしれません。

Living simply may be () () way to stay free and peaceful.