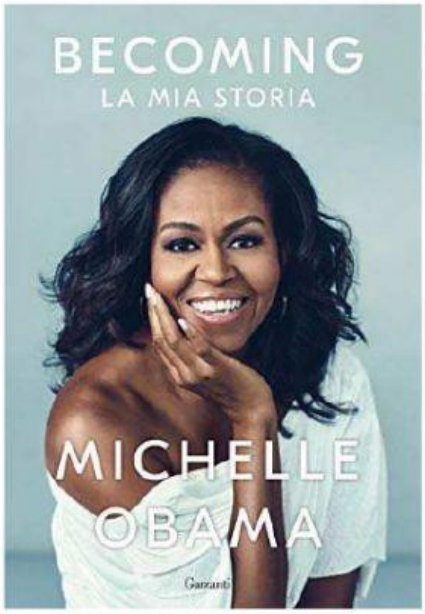
"Becoming" by Michelle Obama



My father, Fraser, taught me to work hard, laugh often, and keep my word. My mother, Marian, showed me how to think for myself and to use my voice. Together, in our cramped apartment on the South Side of Chicago, they helped me see the value in our story, in my story, in the larger story of our country.

For eight years, I lived in the White House, a place with more stairs than I can count - plus elevators, a bowling alley, and an in-house florist. I slept in a bed with Italian linens. Our meals were cooked by the best chefs and delivered by professionals more highly trained than those at any five-star restaurant or hotel. Secret Service agents, with their earpieces, guns and flat expressions, stood outside our doors, doing their best to stay out of our family's private life. We finally got used to it, sort of — the strange elegance of our new home and also the constant, quiet presence of others.

I often stood on the Truman Balcony and watched the tourists posing with their selfie sticks and staring through the iron fence, trying to guess at what went on inside. There were days when I felt suffocated by the fact that our windows were always closed for security, that I couldn't get some fresh air without causing trouble. There were other times when I was awestruck by the white magnolias blooming outside, the everyday bustle of government business, the majesty of a military welcome. There were days, weeks, and months when I hated politics. And there were moments when the beauty of this country and its people so overwhelmed me that I couldn't speak.

Then it was over. A hand goes on a Bible; an oath gets repeated. One president's furniture gets carried out while another's comes in. Closets are emptied and refilled in a few hours. Just like that, there are new heads on new pillows—new temperaments, new dreams. And when it ends, when you walk out the door that last time from the world's most famous address, you're left in many ways to find yourself again. (Adapted from Michelle Obama's autobiography, *Becoming)*

Choose the right option

1 Michelle's family lived

2 She was the First Lady for

3 The First Family usually had their meals

4 American Presidents take their oath

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Are the following sentences True (T), False (F) or Not given (NG)?

1	Michelle's mother was a determined woman.	**T**	**F**	**NG**
2	Her father was an idle man.	**T**	**F**	**NG**
3	The White House has got three floors.	**T**	**F**	**NG**
4	Secret Service agents were always nearby.	**T**	**F**	**NG**
5	Once some tourists took photos of Michelle on the Truman Balcony.	**T**	**F**	**NG**
6	Michelle hated the trees around the White House.	**T**	**F**	**NG**
7	She always loved her role as First Lady.	**T**	**F**	**NG**
8	Presidents can bring some of their furniture to the White House.	**T**	**F**	**NG**

Answer the questions:

1 What did Michelle take after her mother?

2 Which facilities are there in the White House?

3 What do the tourists usually do in front of the White House?

4 Who is in charge of protecting the First Family?

5 Why did Michelle sometimes feel suffocated?

6 How long does it take the staff to empty and refill cupboards during the handover?

7 Would you like to visit the White House? Why/Why not?

8 What job are you going to do in the future? And where would you like to live?

LIVEWORKSHEETS