

# 1 Worksheet on Listening Comprehension

Text: Lyndon B. Johnson, *The Great Society*,

<http://americanrhetoric.com/speeches/lbjthegreatsociety.htm>

## A BACKGROUND INFORMATION

These tasks deal with *The Great Society*, a speech delivered by the American President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1964. Johnson, a Democrat who was President from 1961-1963, spoke in front of an audience of academics at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

## B INSTRUCTIONS

You will find Johnson's speech on "americanrhetoric.com". Please copy and paste this hyperlink into your browser <http://americanrhetoric.com/speeches/lbjthegreatsociety.htm> and follow the instructions below.

Before listening, read the questions in (C) carefully. Then listen to the speech twice and make notes while listening. After the second listening, take 10 minutes to answer the following questions in full sentences and complete the tasks with the help of the notes you have made.

## C QUESTIONS AND TASKS

1. According to Johnson, what is “the test of our success as a nation”?
2. Besides »enrich[ing] and elevat[ing] our national life«, what is the »challenge of the next half century«?
3. What are the three ‘types’ of societies Johnson talks about?
4. Complete the following sentence from the speech:  
“It demands an end to ..... and ..... to which we are totally committed in our time.”
5. Briefly summarize five main characteristics of the Great Society.
6. According to Johnson, how many citizens will there be in the USA in 50 years’ time and how many of them will live in urban areas?
7. Name at least three problems of the US countryside.
8. How many US citizens have not finished five or eight years of school?
9. Why do 100,000 US high school graduates not enter college each year?
10. What are the problems that teachers in the USA have to face?

*(Christian Schröter)*