



North Korean leader Kim Jong-Il welcomed South Korea's president Roh Moo-Hyun to Pyongyang on October the 2nd for only the second-ever summit between the two Koreas. The two neighbors have been divided since 1948 and have spent most of the past six decades as bitter rivals. The two leaders are meeting with the aim of ending the animosity between them. Since no peace treaty has ever been signed, the two states are still technically at war with one another. President Moo-Hyun took the historic step of walking across the heavily militarized border that divides the Korean Peninsula. It is the first time that a South Korean leader has ever done this. Four North Korean officials were waiting to greet him. They promptly took him to North Korea's capital, Pyongyang, by car.

The reception in Pyongyang was lavish and in true North Korean style, expertly orchestrated. Citizens enthusiastically waved plastic flowers as they cheered the meeting of the two national leaders. Kim Jong-Il seemed reserved and unemotional throughout the proceedings, while South Korea's leader appeared to enjoy every moment as he waved and smiled at onlookers. A government official said: "The greeting may seem to be less emotional and enthusiastic because it was the second of its kind...However, the North showed its best sincerity." Another spokesperson told reporters that such a welcome, with an open motorcade, is very rare and an honor only for high-level dignitaries. People on both sides of the border now hope their leaders can make further steps towards peace.

INTERMEDIATE

Koreas meet for second time ever

READING / LISTENING

TRUE / FALSE

Look at the article's headline and guess whether these sentences are true (T) or false (F):

- a. North Korea's leader has visited South Korea for the second time.
- b. The two Koreas have been divided for almost sixty years.
- c. The Korean leaders signed a peace treaty in the year 2000.
- d. S. Korea's President Moo-Hyun walked over the border to N. Korea.
- e. Lavish orchestras were in North Korea's capital to greet Moo-Hyun.
- f. N. Korea's Kim Jong Il leapt up and down with excitement.
- g. Moo-Hyun's motorcade arrival in Pyongyang was a rare event.
- h. North and South Koreans expect a peace deal in the coming days.

SYNONYM MATCH

Match the following synonyms from the article:

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. welcomed | a. VIPs |
| 2. summit | b. hostility |
| 3. rivals | c. spectators |
| 4. animosity | d. fancy |
| 5. promptly | e. conference |
| 6. lavish | f. arranged |
| 7. orchestrated | g. greeted |
| 8. onlookers | h. honesty |
| 9. sincerity | i. swiftly |
| 10. Dignitaries | j. adversaries |