

## Philippine boxing legend to run for president

23rd September, 2021



Philippine boxing legend Manny Pacquiao, 42, has said he will run for president in the 2022 elections. Mr Pacquiao has served as a senator of the Philippines since 2016. He said he wants to run for president because the Filipino people need a new

government. He believes his career in boxing has helped him in politics and would give him the skills he needs to be a good president. He said in a speech: "I'm a fighter, and I will always be a fighter inside and outside the ring." He added: "We need government to serve our people." Other sporting heroes have become leaders of their country, like Pakistan's cricketing hero Imran Khan and Liberia's soccer icon George Weah.

Emmanuel Pacquiao is one of the greatest professional boxers of all time. He is the only boxer in history to be world champion at eight different levels and won twelve major world titles. He is the only boxer to hold world championships across four decades, from the 1990s to the 2020s. In 2019, he became the oldest welterweight world champion ever at the age of 40. Pacquiao has had other successes outside of his boxing and political careers. He was the head coach and a player for a Philippine Basketball Association team. He has also starred in movies, presented TV shows, and as a singer, has released best-selling albums and songs. He is also a preacher, philanthropist and YouTube personality.

Sources: [npr.org](http://npr.org) / [cbssports.com](http://cbssports.com) / [wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org)

### Writing

A former boxer would be a better president than a former TV star. Discuss.

### Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

boxing / legend / president / senator / career / politics / fighter / heroes / icon / history / professional / levels / titles / oldest / successes / albums / YouTube

### True / False

- 1) Manny Pacquiao has been a senator in the Philippines. T / F
- 2) Manny believes his career as a boxer will help him be a good president. T / F
- 3) Manny said he won't always be a fighter. T / F
- 4) Manny said he would be the first sporting hero to be a president. T / F
- 5) Manny has been world champion at eight different levels. T / F
- 6) Manny was first a world champion in the 1990s. T / F
- 7) The article says Manny is the youngest ever boxing world champion. T / F
- 8) Manny has also had a career as a singer. T / F

### Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
| 1. <b>legend</b>       | a. triumphs  |
| 2. <b>run</b>          | b. thinks    |
| 3. <b>believes</b>     | c. character |
| 4. <b>helped</b>       | d. require   |
| 5. <b>need</b>         | e. possess   |
| 6. <b>greatest</b>     | f. superstar |
| 7. <b>hold</b>         | g. trainer   |
| 8. <b>successes</b>    | h. stand for |
| 9. <b>coach</b>        | i. best      |
| 10. <b>personality</b> | j. assisted  |

### Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you know about Manny Pacquiao?
- b) Do you think Manny would be a good president?
- c) Would you be a good president?
- d) How can boxing skills help someone be a good president?
- e) Should a president be a fighter?
- f) Are you a fighter?
- g) Are sporting heroes or TV celebrities better presidents?
- h) What do you think of your government?

## Phrase Match

- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. he will run for president                     | a. boxers of all time    |
| 2. Mr Pacquiao has served as                     | b. the ring              |
| 3. give him the skills                           | c. coach                 |
| 4. I will always be a fighter inside and outside | d. albums and songs      |
| 5. Other sporting heroes have become leaders     | e. he needs              |
| 6. one of the greatest professional              | f. decades               |
| 7. He is the only boxer in history to            | g. in the 2022 elections |
| 8. hold world championships across four          | h. of their country      |
| 9. He was the head                               | i. be world champion     |
| 10. released best-selling                        | j. a senator             |

## Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What do you think of boxing?
- What do you think of Manny's record as a boxer?
- What do you think of Manny's other successes?
- Do you think Manny Pacquiao would be a good president?
- What advice would you give Manny?
- Who is your favorite YouTube personality?
- What questions would you like to ask Manny Pacquiao?

## Spelling

- a aesortn of the Philippines
- his ercare in boxing has helped him
- in stcioipl
- I will always be a iheftgr
- Other sporting hsoeer have become leaders
- Liberia's soccer ncoi George Weah
- twelve jamro world titles
- across four dedeasc
- Pacquiao has had other susescsc
- He has also rtaerds in movies
- He is also a cearerhp
- YouTube plsitorayen

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. h	3. b	4. j	5. d
6. i	7. e	8. a	9. g	10. c

## Role Play

### Role A – A Boxer

You think a boxer would be the best president. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their people. Also, tell the others which of these would be the worst president (and why): a nurse, an engineer or a chat show host.

### Role B – A Nurse

You think a nurse would be the best president. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their people. Also, tell the others which of these would be the worst president (and why): a boxer, an engineer or a chat show host.

### Role C – An Engineer

You think an engineer would be the best president. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their people. Also, tell the others which of these would be the worst president (and why): a nurse, a boxer or a chat show host.

### Role D – A Chat Show Host

You think a chat show host would be the best president. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their people. Also, tell the others which of these would be the worst president (and why): a nurse, an engineer or a boxer.

## Speaking – Best president

Rank these with your partner. Put who would be the best president at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |             |                     |
|-------------|---------------------|
| • a boxer   | • an engineer       |
| • a CEO     | • a soldier         |
| • a nurse   | • a chat show host  |
| • a teacher | • a homeless person |

### Answers – True False

1 T	2 T	3 F	4 F	5 T	6 T	7 F	8 T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.