

**NAME:**

**COURSE:**

*After a topsy-turvy and often acrimonious election, Liberia’s Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf is set to become Africa’s first ever democratically elected female president. With 97 percent of the vote counted, the former Liberian finance minister and Harvard-educated economist will soon be declared the winner. Having gained 59.4 percent of the ballots cast, she has an unassailable lead over her rival George Weah, the former world soccer player of the year. Liberia’s “Iron Lady” said: “Africa is ready for a female president...Women have the education, the character, the competence, and the integrity to lead the nation.” She also stated that: “This is the time to ...get Liberians out of the psychological, economic and political wreckages of war and enthrone true democracy.”*

*Supporters of Mr. Weah are crying foul, claiming the election was spoiled by fraud. Violence erupted in front of polling stations and peacekeepers in riot gear fired tear gas to disperse angry crowds. Two U.N. soldiers were injured in the skirmishes. Mr. Weah has implored protestors to refrain from violence. The threat of unrest and claims of election fraud carry the potential of returning Liberia to the turmoil of civil war, which recently ravaged the country’s economy and killed a quarter of a million people. Ms. Johnson-Sirleaf remains unperturbed about the protests and the prospect of coups and civil war, saying she was eager to “start the process of renewal and rebuilding”. She said she would make Africans proud of her performance. “I look forward to the challenge,” she said.*

**QUESTIONS**

**1. Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text. (2 points)**

a. Is Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf nervous about the protests?


b. Was the election in Liberia fair?


**2. Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer. (1.5 points)**

a. *Liberia had a topsy-turvy and often acrimonious election.*

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b. *Her opponent has said the election was fairly contested.*

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c. *A recent civil war in Liberia saw over a million people die.*

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**3. Find a synonym for each of the four words below from these six options. (1 point)**

Topsy-turvy	Integrity	Enthroned	Skirmish	Turmoil	unperturbed
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a. Calmed: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Altercation: \_\_\_\_\_

c. Honesty: \_\_\_\_\_

d. Chaos: \_\_\_\_\_

