

## 7.5 A State of the Union Prophecy

Combine your strengthening divinatory prowess with the I Ching and prophecy what is to come in the next three years of the country you reside in or the country you call home. Divining on statecraft was one of the oft-used purposes of the I Ching, right from its inception. Now it's your turn.

Derived from the Ranks of Nobility hierarchy that was covered earlier in Chapter 4, the six lines of the cast hexagram will be read as follows:

<b>Line 6</b>	Diplomatic and International Affairs
<b>Line 5</b>	Arts, Entertainment; Culture and Pop Culture
<b>Line 4</b>	Education, Family, Personal Rights
<b>Line 3</b>	Law and Policy, Civil Institutions
<b>Line 2</b>	Public Health & Technology
<b>Line 1</b>	Finance and Economy

Use three coins of the same denomination from the currency system used in the country you'll be divining on, minted within the last five years.

Don't work with coins earlier than that. Keep the coins recent. And no need to consecrate or bless—use them as-is. The coins will contain a rich deposit of the nation's current *qi*, which is what you and the Oracle will be picking up on during the divination.

Prepare the table you will be divining upon. Tidy it up and burn three sticks of incense to their end so that the space is cleansed. Set out all of your tools, including this workbook and your text, *I Ching, The Oracle*. When the three sticks of incense have extinguished in their natural course, you may begin.

Dress wearing what you would typically wear to work for your particular occupation. Approach the table solemnly. Recite a simple invocation, once. You can call upon the names of your country's founders or work in the founding of the nation in a meaningful way. You can keep it entirely secular, albeit ceremonial.

Then state your inquiry as you shake the three coins in your hands:

**Show me what's in store for [*the country you're divining on*] these next three years.**

Recite the inquiry once each time you toss the coins, for a total of six tosses as instructed in Chapter 7 of the text. Space is provided on the subsequent page to log your casting result.

Changing lines (where the result was three heads or three tails) mark the areas in national affairs that will incur the greatest shifts and flux.

In the corresponding instructions for Practicum 7.5 in *I Ching, The Oracle*, you will find a case study reading that may be helpful in guiding your approach to interpreting your reading result.

	Primary Hexagram	X	Transformed Hexagram
<b>Line 6</b>			
<b>Line 5</b>			
<b>Line 4</b>			
<b>Line 3</b>			
<b>Line 2</b>			
<b>Line 1</b>			
	HEXAGRAM #:		HEXAGRAM #:

## PRIMARY HEXAGRAM

“The Oracle” message for the Primary Hexagram would be the state-crafting advice on how the country should navigate the trajectory it’s on. This is a general prediction of what’s to come. Read that section and in the space provided, make your forecast on a general state of the union.

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### **Line 1**      Finance and Economy

After reading the Line 1 Text, how would you interpret the Oracle’s forecast on the state of affairs with respect to **Finance and Economy**?

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**Line 2**      Public Health & Technology

After reading the Line 2 Text, how would you interpret the Oracle's forecast on the state of affairs with respect to **Public Health, the Healthcare System, Technology, Research, and Innovation** in this country?

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**Line 3**      Law and Policy, Civil Institutions

After reading the Line 3 Text, how would you interpret the Oracle's forecast on the state of affairs with respect to **Law and Policy, issues relating to civil rights, human rights, or civil liberties** in this country?

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**Line 4**      Education, Family, Personal Rights

After reading the Line 4 Text, how would you interpret the Oracle's forecast on the state of affairs with respect to **Education System, matters relating to family or individual personhood** in this country?

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**Line 5**      Arts, Entertainment; Culture and Pop Culture

After reading the Line 2 Text, how would you interpret the Oracle's forecast on the state of affairs with respect to **the Arts, Literature, Humanities**, and in modern times, as related to **Entertainment and Pop Culture** in this country?

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**Line 6**      Diplomatic and International Affairs

After reading the Line 6 Text, how would you interpret the Oracle's forecast on the state of affairs with respect to **its Diplomacy with Foreign Countries and International Affairs**?

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Changing lines (where the result was three heads or three tails) mark the areas in national affairs that will incur the greatest shifts and flux. If your casting yielded changing lines, what does that tell you about the areas of national affairs that will experience the greatest shifts and flux in the next three years to come?

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In the case of a presidential or major election in the coming three years that you're doing the forecast, look to the transformed hexagram to see whether the incumbent or a

challenger will win, or how politics in general will play out. Interpret affairs relating to leadership in the transformed hexagram.

## TRANSFORMED HEXAGRAM

“The Oracle” message of the Transformed Hexagram will reveal important forecasts with respect to the nation’s political climate. Read the message and free-write in your own words how you might interpret the Oracle’s message.

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一 1	二 2	三 3	四 4	五 5	六 6	七 7	八 8
							
乾 Qián HEAVEN	兌 Duì LAKE	離 Lí FIRE	震 Zhèn THUNDER	巽 Xùn WIND	坎 Kǎn WATER	艮 Gěn MOUNTAIN	坤 Kūn EARTH

Compare the lower trigram of your Primary Hexagram to the upper trigram of your Transformed Hexagram. If you received a locked result, then simply compare the Lower to the Upper.

Per the above reference table, note the numerical value of the Lower Trigram of your Primary Hexagram: \_\_\_\_\_

Per the above reference table, note the numerical value of the Upper Trigram of your Transformed Hexagram: \_\_\_\_\_

Did the numerical value increase or decrease?

If it went from 8 to 1, then the country is entering a new cycle, hence the start back to 1. When the numbers increase, for example going from 5 to 8, we interpret that as measurable improvement in the state of affairs. If the numbers decrease, such as the lower trigram was Mountain (7) and the upper trigram was Lake (2), then there may be some regression and a downturn when it comes to the state of affairs. If the trigrams were the same and thus the numerical values stayed the same, then this portends stability and a preservation of the status quo.