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North Korea to test long-range missile

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THE ARTICLE

Tensions are continuing to rise on the Korean Peninsular. New reports suggest North Korea is preparing more missile launches. South Korea believes the North may soon test another long-range missile. They have spy satellite photos of a missile on its way to a test launch site. This comes five days after the rogue state tested its second nuclear bomb. Kim Jong-il has also abandoned the 1953 truce that ended the Korean War. There are fears that North Korea's actions will start a nuclear arms race in Asia. South Korea is monitoring the situation closely. Its 'Yonhap' news agency said Pyongyang would need two weeks to prepare its missile before launching it. Experts believe the missile could reach Alaska.

America had strong words for North Korea's government. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates told reporters: "We will not stand idly by as North Korea builds the capability to [bring] destruction on any target in Asia, or on us." He made it clear that the North Koreans were not yet a direct threat to the USA. However, he warned Pyongyang against selling any of its nuclear materials. Japan's defense minister Yasukazu Hamada told a press conference that Japan would never attack North Korea, except in self defence. He stressed the need for a nuclear-free world: "We are the only country that has had an atomic attack...and we will be making ultimate efforts for anti-proliferation as well as abandonment of nuclear weapons," he said.

WARM-UPS

1. NORTH KOREA: Walk around the class and talk to other students about North Korea. Change partners often. Sit with your partner(s) and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

tensions / missiles / spy satellites / photos / nuclear bombs / nuclear arms race / strong words / standing / destruction / direct threats / self defence / efforts

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. HOT SPOTS: What do you know about the world's hot spots? Complete this table with your partner(s). Talk about what you wrote to your partner. Change partners and share what you heard.

Hot Spot	The things I know	My solutions
The Koreas		
Pakistan		
Somalia		
DR Congo		
British politics		
The Arctic ice cap		

4. NUCLEAR: Students A **strongly** believe North Korea can have nuclear weapons if it wants; Students B **strongly** believe there's no way North Korea should have nuclear weapons. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. STRONG WORDS: Do you want to shout at someone? What strong words might you have for these people? Change partners and share what you heard.

- your country's leader
- another country's leader
- a neighbour
- someone at school / work
- drivers
- a sales assistant
- a company CEO
- other _____

6. TENSION: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'tension'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

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

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. Tensions between North and South Korea are on the decline. | T / F |
| b. South Korea has a video of a satellite being taken to a launch site. | T / F |
| c. North Korea has tested two nuclear weapons. | T / F |
| d. North Korea's new missiles could travel as far as the USA. | T / F |
| e. A U.S. official warned North Korea's government America would act. | T / F |
| f. The official warned North Korea should not sell any nuclear materials. | T / F |
| g. Japan's defense minister warned of an attack against North Korea. | T / F |
| h. Several countries have suffered nuclear attacks in the past 100 years. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1. tensions | a. danger |
| 2. abandoned | b. checking |
| 3. truce | c. do nothing |
| 4. monitoring | d. power |
| 5. experts | e. stopped |
| 6. stand idly by | f. emphasized |
| 7. capability | g. stresses |
| 8. threat | h. attempts |
| 9. stressed | i. cease-fire |
| 10. efforts | j. specialists |

3. PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases from the article (sometimes more than one combination is possible):

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. Tensions are | a. race in Asia |
| 2. They have spy satellite | b. nuclear weapons |
| 3. a nuclear arms | c. reach Alaska |
| 4. South Korea is monitoring | d. idly by |
| 5. the missile could | e. threat to the USA |
| 6. America had strong | f. continuing to rise |
| 7. We will not stand | g. free world |
| 8. the North Koreans were not yet a direct | h. the situation closely |
| 9. He stressed the need for a nuclear- | i. words |
| 10. abandonment of | j. photos of a missile |

WHILE READING / LISTENING

GAP FILL: Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Tensions are continuing to _____ on the Korean Peninsular. New reports suggest North Korea is preparing more missile _____. South Korea believes the North may soon test another long-range missile. They have spy satellite photos of a missile on its _____ to a test launch site. This comes five days after the rogue state tested its second nuclear _____. Kim Jong-il has also abandoned the 1953 truce that ended the Korean War. There are _____ that North Korea's actions will start a nuclear arms _____ in Asia. South Korea is monitoring the situation _____. Its 'Yonhap' news agency said Pyongyang would need two weeks to prepare its missile before launching it. Experts believe the missile could _____ Alaska.

race
bomb
launches
reach
closely
rise
way
fears

America had _____ words for North Korea's government. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates told reporters: "We will not _____ idly by as North Korea builds the capability to [bring] destruction on any target in Asia, or on us." He made it _____ that the North Koreans were not yet a direct _____ to the USA. However, he warned Pyongyang against selling any of its nuclear materials. Japan's defense minister Yasukazu Hamada told a press conference that Japan would never _____ North Korea, except in _____ defence. He stressed the need for a nuclear-free world: "We are the only country that has had an _____ attack...and we will be _____ ultimate efforts for anti-proliferation as well as abandonment of nuclear weapons," he said.

atomic
clear
attack
making
strong
threat
self
stand

LISTENING: Listen and fill in the gaps.

Tensions are continuing _____ Korean Peninsular. New reports suggest North Korea is preparing more missile launches. South Korea believes the North may _____ long-range missile. They have spy satellite photos of a missile _____ launch site. This comes five days _____ state tested its second nuclear bomb. Kim Jong-il has also abandoned the 1953 truce that ended the Korean War. There are fears that North Korea's actions will start a _____ in Asia. South Korea is monitoring the situation closely. Its 'Yonhap' news agency said Pyongyang would need two weeks to prepare its missile before launching it. Experts believe _____ reach Alaska.

America had _____ North Korea's government. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates told reporters: "We will not _____ North Korea builds the capability to [bring] destruction on any target in Asia, or on us." He made it clear that the North Koreans _____ direct threat to the USA. However, he warned Pyongyang against selling any of its nuclear materials. Japan's defense minister Yasukazu Hamada told a press conference that Japan _____ North Korea, except in self defence. He stressed the need for a nuclear-free world: "We are the only country _____ atomic attack...and we will _____ efforts for anti-proliferation as well as abandonment of nuclear weapons," he said.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionaries / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words '**nuclear**' and '**weapons**'.

nuclear	weapons
----------------	----------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• rise• believes• way• truce• arms• experts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• strong• stand• direct• self• atomic• efforts
--	---

STUDENT NUCLEAR WEAPONS SURVEY

Write five GOOD questions about nuclear weapons in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'missile'?
- c) Are you concerned about North Korea?
- d) Do you think it's OK for some countries to have nuclear weapons and other countries to not have them?
- e) Do you think there'll ever be a world free of nuclear weapons?
- f) What do you think of North Korea testing its long-range missiles?
- g) How dangerous would a war on the Korean Peninsula be?
- h) What do you think of North Korea's leader Kim Jong-il?
- i) Why do you think Kim Jong-il abandoned the truce with the South?
- j) Would you worry about North Korea if you lived in Alaska?

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DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article?
- b) Do you ever have strong words to say to people?
- c) What do you think America will do if North Korea continues testing missiles?
- d) Do you think any country can stop North Korea?
- e) What are the dangers of North Korea selling its nuclear materials?
- f) Do you think the world should be friendlier to North Korea?
- g) Do you think China should do more to stop North Korea?
- h) Have you ever done anything in self defence?
- i) Do you think your country should have nuclear weapons?
- j) What questions would you like to ask North Korea's Kim Jong-il?

LANGUAGE

Tensions are continuing to (1) _____ on the Korean Peninsular. New reports suggest North Korea is preparing more missile launches. South Korea (2) _____ the North may soon test another long-range missile. They have spy satellite photos of a missile on its (3) _____ to a test launch site. This comes five days after the rogue (4) _____ tested its second nuclear bomb. Kim Jong-il has also abandoned the 1953 truce that ended the Korean War. There are (5) _____ that North Korea's actions will start a nuclear arms race in Asia. South Korea is monitoring the situation closely. Its 'Yonhap' news agency said Pyongyang would need two weeks to (6) _____ its missile before launching it. Experts believe the missile could reach Alaska.

America had (7) _____ words for North Korea's government. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates told reporters: "We will not stand idly (8) _____ as North Korea builds the capability to [bring] destruction on any target in Asia, or on us." He made it clear that the North Koreans were not yet a (9) _____ threat to the USA. However, he warned Pyongyang against (10) _____ any of its nuclear materials. Japan's defense minister Yasukazu Hamada told a press conference that Japan would never attack North Korea, except in self defence. He stressed the need (11) _____ a nuclear-free world: "We are the only country that has had an atomic attack...and we will be (12) _____ ultimate efforts for anti-proliferation as well as abandonment of nuclear weapons," he said.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) raising | (b) raise | (c) rising | (d) rise |
| 2. | (a) believes | (b) believing | (c) beliefs | (d) believer |
| 3. | (a) weigh | (b) ways | (c) way | (d) weighs |
| 4. | (a) national | (b) state | (c) statehood | (d) nationality |
| 5. | (a) afraid | (b) fears | (c) frightens | (d) scares |
| 6. | (a) preparation | (b) prepared | (c) prepare | (d) prepares |
| 7. | (a) strong | (b) strength | (c) strengthen | (d) strongly |
| 8. | (a) bi | (b) bye | (c) buy | (d) by |
| 9. | (a) directs | (b) directly | (c) direction | (d) direct |
| 10. | (a) sales | (b) selling | (c) sold | (d) sell |
| 11. | (a) for | (b) with | (c) by | (d) to |
| 12. | (a) makes | (b) made | (c) making | (d) make |

WRITING:

Write about **nuclear weapons** for 10 minutes. Correct your partner’s paper.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about North Korea. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. TENSIONS: Make a poster about regions of the world that have tensions. Include suggestions on how to reduce those tensions. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. THREAT: Write a magazine article about North Korea's missile and nuclear weapon testing. Include imaginary interviews with a North and South Korean.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. LETTER: Write a letter to North Korea's leader Kim Jong-il. Ask him three questions about his weapons tests. Give him three ideas on what he could do to help his country become part of the world community. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE:

a. F b. F c. T d. T e. T f. T g. F h. F

SYNONYM MATCH:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1. tensions | a. stresses |
| 2. abandoned | b. stopped |
| 3. truce | c. cease-fire |
| 4. monitoring | d. checking |
| 5. experts | e. specialists |
| 6. stand idly by | f. do nothing |
| 7. capability | g. power |
| 8. threat | h. danger |
| 9. stressed | i. emphasized |
| 10. efforts | j. attempts |

PHRASE MATCH:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. Tensions are | a. continuing to rise |
| 2. They have spy satellite | b. photos of a missile |
| 3. a nuclear arms | c. race in Asia |
| 4. South Korea is monitoring | d. the situation closely |
| 5. the missile could | e. reach Alaska |
| 6. America had strong | f. words |
| 7. We will not stand | g. idly by |
| 8. the North Koreans were not yet a direct | h. threat to the USA |
| 9. He stressed the need for a nuclear- | i. free world |
| 10. abandonment of | j. nuclear weapons |

GAP FILL:

North Korea to test long-range missile

Tensions are continuing to **rise** on the Korean Peninsular. New reports suggest North Korea is preparing more missile **launches**. South Korea believes the North may soon test another long-range missile. They have spy satellite photos of a missile on its **way** to a test launch site. This comes five days after the rogue state tested its second nuclear **bomb**. Kim Jong-il has also abandoned the 1953 truce that ended the Korean War. There are **fears** that North Korea's actions will start a nuclear arms **race** in Asia. South Korea is monitoring the situation **closely**. Its 'Yonhap' news agency said Pyongyang would need two weeks to prepare its missile before launching it. Experts believe the missile could **reach** Alaska.

America had **strong** words for North Korea's government. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates told reporters: "We will not **stand** idly by as North Korea builds the capability to [bring] destruction on any target in Asia, or on us." He made it **clear** that the North Koreans were not yet a direct **threat** to the USA. However, he warned Pyongyang against selling any of its nuclear materials. Japan's defense minister Yasukazu Hamada told a press conference that Japan would never **attack** North Korea, except in **self** defence. He stressed the need for a nuclear-free world: "We are the only country that has had an **atomic** attack...and we will be **making** ultimate efforts for anti-proliferation as well as abandonment of nuclear weapons," he said.

LANGUAGE WORK

1 - d 2 - a 3 - c 4 - b 5 - b 6 - c 7 - a 8 - d 9 - d 10 - b 11 - a 12 - c