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## **Meteorite hits Russia, thousands injured**

**17th February, 2013**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

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# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

A meteorite exploded above central Russia on Friday morning. It was just like a scene from a science fiction movie. People watched the bright, swimming pool-sized rock fly across the sky and then crash. It entered the Earth's atmosphere and looked like a giant shooting star. The power of the explosion damaged many buildings and smashed thousands of windows. The city of Chelyabinsk had no gas or Internet for a short time after the meteor shower came down. Thousands of people went to hospital for medical treatment. Many of them had cuts from flying glass. They did not know the shock wave from the explosion would be so dangerous and cause so much damage.

The Russian army found three giant holes in the earth where different parts of the meteorite hit the ground. One crater was six metres wide. The craters were 80 km apart. Investigators are checking the sites of where the meteorites came down to see if they are radioactive. The police have sealed off the areas to protect the public. Scientists working at the site said the meteor was mostly rock and iron. They said it is the largest meteorite to hit the Earth for over 100 years. NASA estimated that the meteor weighed around 7,000 tons and exploded with the power of 20 atomic bombs. Russian newspapers say that some people are now trying to sell rocks from the meteorite for \$15 each.

Sources: <http://rt.com/news/meteorite-crash-urals-chelyabinsk-283/>  
<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2013/02/15/russia-meteorite/1921991/>

# WARM-UPS

**1. METEORITES:** Walk around the class and talk to other students about meteorites. Change partners often 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.

*meteorite / science fiction / atmosphere / shooting star / smashed windows / explosion / army / craters / investigators / radioactive / protect the public / atomic bombs / rocks*

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

**3. SCIENCE FICTION:** Will these happen? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	(When) (Will) it happen?	What would you do?
Live on Mars		
House robots		
Live to be 200		
Jet backpacks		
Alien invasion		
Time travel		

**4. SURVIVE:** Students A **strongly** believe we can survive being hit by a giant meteorite; Students B **strongly** believe we can't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. SPACE DANGERS:** Which of these are worst? Rank them and share your rankings with your partner. Put the worst at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Earth hit by gigantic asteroid
- alien invasion
- solar flare reaches Earth
- space virus
- space junk
- space wars
- ozone gets stronger
- other \_\_\_\_\_

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

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| a. A meteorite exploded after it hit Russia on Friday.              | T / F |
| b. Many people in a swimming pool saw it fly across the sky.        | T / F |
| c. A city in Russia was left without gas and Internet.              | T / F |
| d. The shock wave from the explosion smashed thousands of windows.  | T / F |
| e. Russia's army found six craters that were three metres wide.     | T / F |
| f. The distance from some craters to others was up to 80km.         | T / F |
| g. The meteorites were made of rock and lead.                       | T / F |
| h. People are trying to sell bits of the meteorite for \$15 a rock. | T / F |

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

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. exploded   | a. came into  |
| 2. bright     | b. mainly     |
| 3. entered    | c. huge       |
| 4. power      | d. blew up    |
| 5. treatment  | e. closed     |
| 6. giant      | f. force      |
| 7. crater     | g. calculated |
| 8. sealed     | h. shining    |
| 9. mostly     | i. hole       |
| 10. estimated | j. care       |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |                                 |                          |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. A meteorite exploded         | a. radioactive           |
| 2. just like a scene from a     | b. and then crash        |
| 3. fly across the sky           | c. off the areas         |
| 4. went to hospital for medical | d. in the ground         |
| 5. shock                        | e. treatment             |
| 6. three giant holes            | f. above central Russia  |
| 7. The craters were 80 km       | g. wave                  |
| 8. see if they are              | h. of 20 atomic bombs    |
| 9. police have sealed           | i. science fiction movie |
| 10. exploded with the power     | j. apart                 |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

A meteorite exploded above (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Russia on Friday morning. It was just like a scene from a science fiction movie. People watched the (2) \_\_\_\_\_, swimming pool-sized rock fly across the sky and then crash. It (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the Earth's atmosphere and looked like a giant (4) \_\_\_\_\_ star. The power of the explosion damaged many buildings and smashed thousands of windows. The city of Chelyabinsk had no gas or Internet for a (5) \_\_\_\_\_ time after the meteor shower came down. Thousands of people went to hospital for medical (6) \_\_\_\_\_. Many of them had cuts from flying glass. They did not know the shock (7) \_\_\_\_\_ from the explosion would be so dangerous and cause so much (8) \_\_\_\_\_.

*shooting*  
*treatment*  
*bright*  
*damage*  
*central*  
*wave*  
*entered*  
*short*

The Russian army found three (9) \_\_\_\_\_ holes in the earth where different parts of the meteorite hit the ground. One (10) \_\_\_\_\_ was six metres wide. The craters were 80 km (11) \_\_\_\_\_. Investigators are checking the sites of where the meteorites came down to see if they are (12) \_\_\_\_\_. The police have sealed (13) \_\_\_\_\_ the areas to protect the public. Scientists working at the site said the meteor was mostly rock and (14) \_\_\_\_\_. They said it is the largest meteorite to hit the Earth for over 100 years. NASA (15) \_\_\_\_\_ that the meteor weighed around 7,000 tons and exploded with the (16) \_\_\_\_\_ of 20 atomic bombs. Russian newspapers say that some people are now trying to sell rocks from the meteorite for \$15 each.

*radioactive*  
*crater*  
*power*  
*iron*  
*giant*  
*apart*  
*estimated*  
*off*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

- 1) A meteorite exploded \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. above central Russia
  - b. about central Russia
  - c. around central Russia
  - d. above centre Russia
- 2) the explosion damaged many buildings and smashed \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. thousand of windows
  - b. thousands of window
  - c. thousand of window
  - d. thousands of windows
- 3) Thousands of people went to hospital \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. from medical treatment
  - b. of medical treatment
  - c. four medical treatment
  - d. for medical treatment
- 4) Many of them had cuts \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. from flew glass
  - b. from flying glass
  - c. from flies glass
  - d. from flight glass
- 5) They did not know the \_\_\_\_\_ the explosion would be so dangerous
  - a. shocking wave from
  - b. shocked wave from
  - c. shocks wave from
  - d. shock wave from
- 6) holes in the earth where different parts of the meteorite \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. hit a ground
  - b. hit on ground
  - c. hit the ground
  - d. hit that ground
- 7) Investigators are checking the sites of where the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. meteorites came down
  - b. meteorites came dawn
  - c. meteorites came up
  - d. meteorites came along
- 8) They said it is the largest meteorite \_\_\_\_\_ over 100 years.
  - a. to hit an Earth for
  - b. to hit our Earth for
  - c. to hit the Earth for
  - d. to hit this Earth for
- 9) the meteor weighed around 7,000 tons and exploded \_\_\_\_\_ 20 atomic bombs
  - a. with a power of
  - b. with the power of
  - c. with all power of
  - d. with such power of
- 10) people are now trying to sell rocks from the meteorite \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. for \$15 each
  - b. for \$50 each
  - c. for \$15 apiece
  - d. for \$50 apiece

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

A meteorite (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Russia on Friday morning. It was just like a scene from a science fiction movie. People watched the bright, swimming (2) \_\_\_\_\_ across the sky and then crash. It entered the Earth's atmosphere and (3) \_\_\_\_\_ shooting star. The power of the explosion damaged many buildings and smashed thousands of windows. The city of Chelyabinsk had no gas or Internet for a short time (4) \_\_\_\_\_ came down. Thousands of people went to hospital for medical treatment. Many of them had (5) \_\_\_\_\_. They did not know the shock wave from the explosion would be so dangerous (6) \_\_\_\_\_ damage.

The Russian army found (7) \_\_\_\_\_ earth where different parts of the meteorite hit the ground. One crater was six metres wide. The craters were 80 km apart. Investigators (8) \_\_\_\_\_ where the meteorites came down to (9) \_\_\_\_\_. The police have sealed off the areas to protect the public. Scientists working at the site said the meteor (10) \_\_\_\_\_. They said it is the largest meteorite to hit the Earth for over 100 years. NASA estimated that the meteor weighed around 7,000 tons (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of 20 atomic bombs. Russian newspapers say that some people are now (12) \_\_\_\_\_ the meteorite for \$15 each.

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

1. Where in the world did the meteorite explode?

---

2. What was it like a scene from?

---

3. What did it look like?

---

4. What did the meteorite leave people without in one town?

---

5. What cut the people who were injured?

---

6. How many holes did the Russian army find?

---

7. How far apart were the craters?

---

8. What was the meteorite made of?

---

9. Who said the meteorite weighed 7,000 tons?

---

10. How much can you buy a piece of meteor rock for?

---



# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

1. Where did the meteorite explode?
  - a) just to the east of Russia
  - b) above central Russia
  - c) in the south of Russia
  - d) above Moscow
2. What was the scene like?
  - a) action hero comic book
  - b) a doomsday story
  - c) a bad nightmare
  - d) a science fiction movie
3. For how long were some people without gas?
  - a) a short time
  - b) an instant
  - c) hours and hours
  - d) all night
4. What caused so many people to have cuts?
  - a) meteorite rocks
  - b) falling buildings
  - c) flying glass
  - d) the power of the wind from the explosion
5. What caused so much damage?
  - a) an electric shock
  - b) the shock wave
  - c) the wave of shock
  - d) the wavy shock
6. Who found three holes in the ground?
  - a) soldiers
  - b) astronauts
  - c) children
  - d) ambulance drivers
7. How far apart were the craters?
  - a) 18km
  - b) 80m
  - c) 80km
  - d) 800m
8. What are investigators checking for?
  - a) radioactivity
  - b) aliens
  - c) poison
  - d) gold
9. What is the meteor made of?
  - a) rock and iron
  - b) rock and lead
  - c) rock and water
  - d) rock and an unknown metal
10. How much can you buy a piece of meteorite rock for?
  - a) 15 rubles
  - b) £15
  - c) €15
  - d) \$15

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

## **Role A – Worried person**

After the meteorite hit the Earth, you are worried about dangerous things from space. Tell the others three reasons why. You are worried that aliens will attack the Earth. You think we should make weapons to fight aliens and destroy meteorites. Tell the others that is important.

## **Role B – Normal person**

You think the meteorite that hit the Earth was very interesting. Tell the others three reasons why. You think space is amazing. You hope there is alien life out there somewhere. You would love to meet an alien. You think worried person is wrong about everything.

## **Role C – Space scientist**

You are very interested in space but do not think it is like science fiction. Tell the others three reasons why. There are no aliens. Meteorites will never destroy the Earth. You think the normal person isn't normal because (s)he wants to meet an alien. Worried person is crazy.

## **Role D – Alien**

You are an alien living inside a human body. You have been on Earth for thousands of years. You come from a far way planet that was destroyed by a meteorite. You know a big meteorite will hit Earth soon. Tell worried person aliens are friendly and that millions of aliens want to come to Earth.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

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

science	fiction

- 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"><li>• above</li><li>• fly</li><li>• power</li><li>• short</li><li>• glass</li><li>• shock</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• giant</li><li>• checking</li><li>• areas</li><li>• mostly</li><li>• hit</li><li>• 20</li></ul>
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# METEORITES SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

Write five GOOD questions about meteorites 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.

# METEORITES 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 'meteorite'?
- c) What do you know about meteorites?
- d) How scary is the idea of a meteorite hitting your town?
- e) Why didn't the government warn people about the meteorite?
- f) Did you see TV pictures of the meteorite? What did you think?
- g) What would you do if you saw a meteorite in the sky above you?
- h) Do you think meteorite contain dangerous things from space?
- i) Do you like movies about things from space hitting (or nearly hitting) the Earth?

*Meteorite hits Russia, thousands injured – 17th February, 2013*  
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# METEORITES DISCUSSION

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

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) What would world leaders do if a super-giant, huge, enormous meteorite was going to hit the Earth in a year from now?
- c) What would it be like to investigate a meteor crash site?
- d) Do you think meteorite could carry life from outer space?
- e) What is the most interesting thing about outer space?
- f) What will the Russian police do with the meteorite?
- g) What name would you give to the meteorite (and why)?
- h) Would you like to buy a piece of the meteorite? What would you do with it?
- i) What questions would you like to ask a meteorite expert?

# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - LANGUAGE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

A meteorite (1) \_\_\_\_\_ above central Russia on Friday morning. It was just like a (2) \_\_\_\_\_ from a science fiction movie. People watched the bright, swimming pool-sized rock fly across the sky and then crash. It entered the Earth's atmosphere and looked like a giant shooting star. The (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of the explosion damaged many buildings and smashed thousands of windows. The city of Chelyabinsk had no gas or Internet for a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ time after the meteor shower came down. Thousands of people went to hospital for medical (5) \_\_\_\_\_. Many of them had cuts from flying glass. They did not know the shock wave from the explosion would be so dangerous and cause so (6) \_\_\_\_\_ damage.

The Russian army found three giant holes in the earth where (7) \_\_\_\_\_ parts of the meteorite hit the ground. One crater was six metres wide. The craters were 80 km (8) \_\_\_\_\_. Investigators are checking the sites of where the meteorites came (9) \_\_\_\_\_ to see if they are radioactive. The police have sealed (10) \_\_\_\_\_ the areas to protect the public. Scientists working at the site said the meteor was mostly rock and iron. They said it is the largest meteorite to hit the Earth for (11) \_\_\_\_\_ 100 years. NASA estimated that the meteor weighed around 7,000 tons and exploded with the power of 20 atomic bombs. Russian newspapers say that some people are now (12) \_\_\_\_\_ to sell rocks from the meteorite for \$15 each.

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

- |     |                |               |               |                   |
|-----|----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1.  | (a) exploded   | (b) explosion | (c) explosive | (d) explode       |
| 2.  | (a) comic      | (b) film      | (c) scene     | (d) action        |
| 3.  | (a) powers     | (b) powerful  | (c) power     | (d) powered       |
| 4.  | (a) less       | (b) small     | (c) tiny      | (d) short         |
| 5.  | (a) treats     | (b) threats   | (c) treatment | (d) treated       |
| 6.  | (a) some       | (b) much      | (c) more      | (d) many          |
| 7.  | (a) interested | (b) different | (c) unlike    | (d) fresh         |
| 8.  | (a) separately | (b) apart     | (c) alone     | (d) independently |
| 9.  | (a) around     | (b) through   | (c) along     | (d) down          |
| 10. | (a) waxed      | (b) along     | (c) strongly  | (d) off           |
| 11. | (a) under      | (b) apart     | (c) many      | (d) over          |
| 12. | (a) tried      | (b) tries     | (c) try       | (d) trying        |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. A meteorite deedplx
2. ntlreca Russia
3. Earth's astmehpeor
4. smashed hudotassn of windows
5. medical tnretmeta
6. eusca so much damage

## Paragraph 2

7. three tigna holes
8. The raetcrs were 80 km apart
9. to see if they are edriavocati
10. police have eealsd off the areas
11. the meteor eewhigd around 7,000 tons
12. atomic sobmb



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) wave from the explosion would be so dangerous and cause so much damage.
- ( ) treatment. Many of them had cuts from flying glass. They did not know the shock
- ( ) off the areas to protect the public. Scientists working at the site said the meteor was mostly rock and
- ( ) the Earth's atmosphere and looked like a giant shooting star. The power of the explosion damaged many
- ( ) The Russian army found three giant holes in the earth where different parts of the meteorite hit the
- ( ) around 7,000 tons and exploded with the power of 20 atomic bombs. Russian newspapers
- ( ) iron. They said it is the largest meteorite to hit the Earth for over 100 years. NASA estimated that the meteor weighed
- ( ) buildings and smashed thousands of windows. The city of Chelyabinsk had no gas or Internet for a short
- ( ) say that some people are now trying to sell rocks from the meteorite for \$15 each.
- ( ) fiction movie. People watched the bright, swimming pool-sized rock fly across the sky and then crash. It entered
- ( ) time after the meteor shower came down. Thousands of people went to hospital for medical
- ( ) sites of where the meteorites came down to see if they are radioactive. The police have sealed
- ( ) ground. One crater was six metres wide. The craters were 80 km apart. Investigators are checking the
- ( **1** ) A meteorite exploded above central Russia on Friday morning. It was just like a scene from a science

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

1. on exploded Friday above central A Russia meteorite.

---

2. from fiction Just scene science a a movie like.

---

3. damaged power many of buildings the explosion The.

---

4. flying them glass had cuts Many from of.

---

5. much cause dangerous damage so and So.

---

6. in the earth The Russian army found three giant holes.

---

7. were km craters 80 apart The.

---

8. have police The areas the off sealed.

---

9. largest the is it said They Earth the hit to meteorite.

---

10. from rocks sell to Trying each \$15 for meteorite the.

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

A meteorite *exploded / explosion* above central Russia on Friday morning. It was just like a *scene / science* from a science fiction movie. People watched the *brightness / bright*, swimming pool-sized rock *fly / flew* across the sky and then crash. It entered the Earth's atmosphere and looked like a giant *shooting / shoot* star. The power of the explosion damaged many buildings and smashed *thousand / thousands* of windows. The city of Chelyabinsk had no gas or Internet for a *short / shorter* time after the meteor shower came down. Thousands of people went to hospital for medical *treats / treatment*. Many of them had cuts from *flying / flight* glass. They did not know the shock wave from the explosion would be so dangerous and cause *such / so* much damage.

The Russian army found three *giant / ogre* holes in the earth where different parts of the meteorite *hit / hitting* the ground. One crater was six metres wide. The craters were 80 km *part / apart*. Investigators are checking the *sites / sights* of where the meteorites came *down / dawn* to see if they are radioactive. The police have *sealed / peeled* off the areas to protect the public. Scientists working at the site said the meteor was mostly rock and *iron / irons*. They said it is the largest meteorite to hit the Earth *for / by* over 100 years. NASA estimated that the meteor weighed around 7,000 tons and exploded with the power *for / of* 20 atomic bombs. Russian newspapers say that some people are now trying to sell rocks from the meteorite for \$15 *each / pair*.

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

\_ m \_ t \_ r \_ t \_ \_ xpl \_ d \_ d \_ b \_ v \_ c \_ ntr \_ l R \_ ss \_ \_ \_ n Fr \_ d \_ y  
m \_ rn \_ ng. \_ t w \_ s j \_ st l \_ k \_ \_ sc \_ n \_ fr \_ m \_ sc \_ nc \_  
f \_ ct \_ \_ n m \_ v \_ \_ . P \_ \_ pl \_ w \_ tch \_ d th \_ br \_ ght, sw \_ mm \_ ng  
p \_ \_ l - s \_ z \_ d r \_ ck fly \_ cr \_ ss th \_ sky \_ nd th \_ n cr \_ sh. \_ t  
\_ nt \_ r \_ d th \_ \_ \_ rth 's \_ tm \_ sph \_ r \_ \_ nd l \_ \_ k \_ d l \_ k \_ \_  
g \_ \_ nt sh \_ \_ t \_ ng st \_ r. Th \_ p \_ w \_ r \_ f th \_ \_ xpl \_ s \_ \_ n  
d \_ m \_ g \_ d m \_ ny b \_ \_ ld \_ ngs \_ nd sm \_ sh \_ d th \_ s \_ nds \_ f  
w \_ nd \_ ws. Th \_ c \_ ty \_ f Ch \_ ly \_ b \_ nsk h \_ d \_ n \_ g \_ s \_ r  
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m \_ d \_ c \_ l \_ tr \_ \_ tm \_ nt. M \_ ny \_ f th \_ m \_ h \_ d \_ c \_ ts \_ fr \_ m \_ fly \_ ng  
gl \_ ss. Th \_ y \_ d \_ d \_ n \_ t \_ kn \_ w \_ th \_ sh \_ ck \_ w \_ v \_ \_ fr \_ m th \_  
\_ xpl \_ s \_ \_ n w \_ \_ ld \_ b \_ s \_ d \_ ng \_ r \_ \_ s \_ \_ nd c \_ \_ s \_ s \_ m \_ ch  
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Th \_ R \_ ss \_ \_ n \_ rmy f \_ \_ nd thr \_ \_ g \_ \_ nt h \_ l \_ s \_ \_ n th \_  
\_ \_ rth wh \_ r \_ d \_ ff \_ r \_ nt p \_ rts \_ f th \_ m \_ t \_ \_ r \_ t \_ h \_ t th \_  
gr \_ \_ nd. \_ n \_ cr \_ t \_ r \_ w \_ s s \_ x \_ m \_ tr \_ s \_ w \_ d \_ . Th \_ cr \_ t \_ rs  
w \_ r \_ 80 km \_ p \_ rt. \_ nv \_ st \_ g \_ t \_ rs \_ r \_ ch \_ ck \_ ng th \_  
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\_ r \_ \_ s \_ t \_ pr \_ t \_ ct th \_ p \_ bl \_ c. Sc \_ \_ nt \_ sts w \_ rk \_ ng \_ t th \_  
s \_ t \_ s \_ \_ d th \_ m \_ t \_ \_ r \_ w \_ s m \_ stly r \_ ck \_ \_ nd \_ r \_ n. Th \_ y  
s \_ \_ d \_ t \_ s th \_ l \_ rg \_ st m \_ t \_ \_ r \_ t \_ t \_ h \_ t th \_ \_ \_ rth \_ fr  
\_ v \_ r 100 y \_ \_ rs. N \_ S \_ \_ st \_ m \_ t \_ d th \_ t th \_ m \_ t \_ \_ r  
w \_ \_ gh \_ d \_ r \_ \_ nd 7,000 t \_ ns \_ \_ nd \_ xpl \_ d \_ d w \_ th th \_  
p \_ w \_ r \_ f 20 \_ t \_ m \_ c \_ b \_ mbs. R \_ ss \_ \_ n n \_ wsp \_ p \_ rs \_ s \_ y  
th \_ t s \_ m \_ p \_ \_ pl \_ \_ r \_ n \_ w try \_ ng \_ t \_ s \_ ll \_ r \_ cks \_ fr \_ m th \_  
m \_ t \_ \_ r \_ t \_ f \_ r \$15 \_ \_ ch.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

a meteorite exploded above central russia on friday morning it was just like a scene from a science fiction movie people watched the bright swimming pool-sized rock fly across the sky and then crash it entered the earth's atmosphere and looked like a giant shooting star the power of the explosion damaged many buildings and smashed thousands of windows the city of chelyabinsk had no gas or internet for a short time after the meteor shower came down thousands of people went to hospital for medical treatment many of them had cuts from flying glass they did not know the shock wave from the explosion would be so dangerous and cause so much damage

the russian army found three giant holes in the earth where different parts of the meteorite hit the ground one crater was six metres wide the craters were 80 km apart investigators are checking the sites of where the meteorites came down to see if they are radioactive the police have sealed off the areas to protect the public scientists working at the site said the meteor was mostly rock and iron they said it is the largest meteorite to hit the earth for over 100 years nasa estimated that the meteor weighed around 7000 tons and exploded with the power of 20 atomic bombs russian newspapers say that some people are now trying to sell rocks from the meteorite for \$15 each

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

A meteorite exploded above central Russia on Friday morning. It was just like a scene from a science fiction movie. People watched the bright, swimming pool-sized rock fly across the sky and then crash. It entered the Earth's atmosphere and looked like a giant shooting star. The power of the explosion damaged many buildings and smashed thousands of windows. The city of Chelyabinsk had no gas or Internet for a short time after the meteor shower came down. Thousands of people went to hospital for medical treatment. Many of them had cuts from flying glass. They did not know the shockwave from the explosion would be so dangerous and cause so much damage. The Russian army found three giant holes in the earth where different parts of the meteorite hit the ground. One crater was six metres wide. The craters were 80 km apart. Investigators are checking the sites of where the meteorites came down to see if they are radioactive. The police have sealed off the area to protect the public. Scientists working at the site said the meteor was mostly rock and iron. They said it is the largest meteorite to hit the Earth for over 100 years. NASA estimated that the meteor weighed around 7,000 tons and exploded with the power of 20 atomic bombs. Russian newspapers say that some people are now trying to sell rocks from the meteorite for \$15 each.

# FREE WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130217-meteorite.html>

Write about **meteorites** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

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# 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 meteorites. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. METEORITES:** Make a poster about meteorites. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. CRASHED:** Write a magazine article about the meteorite that crashed into Russia. Include imaginary interviews with people who were there.

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. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to a meteor expert. Ask him/her three questions about meteorites. Give him/her three of your opinions on them. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

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

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. exploded   | a. blew up    |
| 2. bright     | b. shining    |
| 3. entered    | c. came into  |
| 4. power      | d. force      |
| 5. treatment  | e. care       |
| 6. giant      | f. huge       |
| 7. crater     | g. hole       |
| 8. sealed     | h. closed     |
| 9. mostly     | i. mainly     |
| 10. estimated | j. calculated |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Above central Russia
2. A science fiction movie
3. A giant shooting star
4. Gas and Internet
5. Flying gas
6. Three
7. 80 km
8. Rock and iron
9. NASA
10. \$15

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b    2. d    3. a    4. c    5. b    6. a    7. c    8. a    9. a    10. d

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)