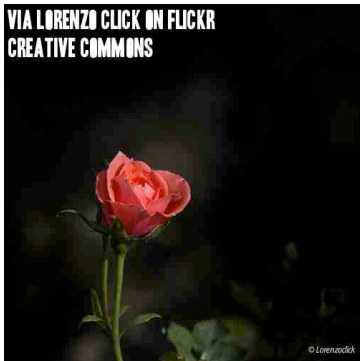


BreakingNewsEnglish - The Mini Lesson

Questions surrounding Malaysia plane crash

20th July, 2014

VIA LORENZO CLICK ON FLICKR
CREATIVE COMMONS



A Malaysian airplane was shot down over eastern Ukraine on Thursday evening. All 298 passengers and crew died in the tragedy. Malaysians are still in shock after the loss of another airplane that disappeared in March.

There are many questions over who shot the plane above Ukraine. The Ukrainian government is blaming pro-Russian rebels from east Ukraine. The rebels are saying they do not have the technology to shoot down an airplane flying above 10,000 metres. They blame Ukraine for the tragedy. The flight was flying from Amsterdam, Holland to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Air traffic controllers told the pilot that the route above Ukrainian skies was safe, even though there was fighting on the ground.

All efforts are now on the investigation to find out what happened to the flight. There are many problems with this. The crash site near the village of Grabovo is in an area controlled by the rebels. There are worries that investigators will not get the airplane's black box. This will provide important information about the last moments of the flight. Experts say the plane was shot down by a surface-to-air missile. A Ukrainian government spokesman said rebels used a Russian-made Buk missile launcher to shoot the plane. Rebel leader Alexander Borodai blamed the Ukrainian government. Since the crash, all air space above Ukraine has been closed. Planes already in the sky changed direction to go around Ukraine.

Sources: *New Straits Times* / *Moscow Times* / *BBC*

Writing

It is safer to travel by airplane than by car or train. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

airplane / in shock / disappeared / blaming / rebels / tragedy / air traffic controllers / investigation / flight / crash site / black box / missile / spokesman / air space

True / False

- a) The article says the Malaysia Airlines plane was shot down. T / F
- b) The government of Ukraine is blaming pro-Russian rebels. T / F
- c) The rebels said they had weapons that could reach 10,000 metres. T / F
- d) Air traffic controllers said the route the plane took was not safe. T / F
- e) There should be few problems getting the investigation started. T / F
- f) Investigators fear they might not get access to the black box. T / F
- g) Ukraine said the missile that hit the plane was made in Russia. T / F
- h) Planes are continuing to fly over eastern Ukraine. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. died | a. vanished |
| 2. tragedy | b. location |
| 3. disappeared | c. secure |
| 4. above | d. catastrophe |
| 5. safe | e. course |
| 6. site | f. concerns |
| 7. worries | g. passed away |
| 8. moments | h. specialists |
| 9. experts | i. over |
| 10. direction | j. seconds |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What kind of information will the black box show?
- b) Do you think the plane was shot down by accident?
- c) Will this tragedy make you more worried about flying?
- d) What do you worry about most when you are on a plane?
- e) Are you worried terrorists could start shooting planes?
- f) Should investigators from the USA go to the crash site?
- g) What is your message for the families?
- h) What questions would you like to ask Ukraine's leader?

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Phrase Match

1. A Malaysian airplane was shot
 2. All 298 passengers
 3. another airplane that
 4. an airplane flying
 5. the route above Ukrainian
 6. All efforts are now
 7. in an area controlled
 8. the last
 9. all air space
 10. changed
- a. by the rebels
 - b. disappeared in March
 - c. skies was safe
 - d. direction
 - e. down over eastern Ukraine
 - f. moments of the flight
 - g. above Ukraine
 - h. and crew
 - i. on the investigation
 - j. above 10,000 metres

Discussion – Student B

- a) Do you worry about flying?
- b) Why would anyone want to shoot down a passenger plane?
- c) Should planes not fly across war zones?
- d) What should Malaysia Airlines do to help the families?
- e) How can we remember the passengers and crew?
- f) Why are both sides blaming each other?
- g) How does this tragedy change things in Ukraine?
- h) What do you know about the fighting in Ukraine?

Spelling

1. shot down over tanesre Ukraine
2. All 298 esseprasgn and crew
3. another airplane that deeaprsadpi
4. they do not have the ogoealcynth
5. They blame Ukraine for the yeatdgr
6. the utroe above Ukrainian skies
7. All frefitso are now on the investigation
8. an area nlroeodtlc by the rebels
9. This will edpvori important information
10. the last neotmsm of the flight
11. a ucerfsa-to-air missile
12. changed icedritno

Answers – Synonym Match

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

Circle The Correct Words

A Malaysian airplane was *shot* / *shoot* down over eastern Ukraine on Thursday evening. All 298 passengers and *crews* / *crew* died in the tragedy. Malaysians are still *in* / *on* shock after the loss of *another* / *other* airplane that disappeared in March. There are many *questions* / *questioning* over who shot the plane above Ukraine. The Ukrainian government is blaming pro-Russian *rebels* / *rebellions* from east Ukraine. The rebels are saying they do not have the technology to shoot down an airplane *flights* / *flying* above 10,000 metres. They blame Ukraine *for* / *from* the tragedy. The plane was flying from Amsterdam, Holland to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Air traffic controllers *told* / *tell* the pilot that the route above Ukrainian skies was safe, even though there was fighting *in* / *on* the ground.

All efforts are now on the *investigating* / *investigation* to find out what happened to the flight. There are many problems with *these* / *this*. The crash site near the village of Grabovo is in an *area* / *region* controlled by the rebels. There are *worrying* / *worries* that investigators will not get the airplane's black box. This will *provide* / *provides* important information about the last moments of the flight. *Experts* / *Expert* say the plane was shot down by a surface-to-air missile. A Ukrainian government spokesman said rebels *used* / *using* a Russian-made Buk missile *launches* / *launcher* to shoot the plane. Rebel leader Alexander Borodai blamed the Ukrainian government. Since the crash, all air *spacing* / *space* above Ukraine has been closed. Planes already in the sky changed *direction* / *directing* to go around Ukraine.

Answers – True False

a	T	b	T	c	F	d	F	e	F	f	T	g	T	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.