

Man waits 3 hours for ambulance

8th January, 2015



A man who broke his leg waited for three hours for an ambulance. Luigi Segadelli, 30, broke his leg in a rugby match in Wales. His doctor called for an ambulance. The game stopped while they waited for it to arrive but no ambulance came. Finally, the match was called off. Workers turned on the floodlights so Mr Segadelli did not have to wait in the dark. His team put blankets on him to protect him from the cold. The ambulance service said not to move Mr Segadelli because his leg could become worse. An ambulance finally came three hours later.

Mr Segadelli is now recovering in hospital. He had an operation on his broken leg. Doctors put metal pins in his leg to make it strong. Mr Segadelli is not happy. He told reporters: "I want an apology for the delay. They must..make sure it does not happen to anyone else again." He explained that while he was waiting for the ambulance, he was shaking with cold. He said the paramedics were worried after his foot became blue. He had been in the cold for a long time and there was a risk of him losing his foot. The ambulance service said it was very busy that day.

Sources: *WalesOnline / South Wales Evening Post / BBC*

Writing

All companies and sports teams should have their own ambulance. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

broken leg / three hours / ambulance / doctor / floodlights / in the dark / the cold / recovering / operation / apology / shaking / paramedics / worried / risk / very busy

True / False

- A man waited for three hours for an ambulance with a broken back. T / F
- The man was injured while playing in a rugby game. T / F
- The man's teammates put blankets on him to help keep him warm. T / F
- The ambulance service told people not to move the man. T / F
- The man is now out of hospital. T / F
- The man said he was happy with the ambulance service. T / F
- Paramedics worried after they saw the man's foot turn blue. T / F
- The ambulance service was not so busy when the man was injured. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. match | a. shield |
| 2. called | b. come |
| 3. arrive | c. surgery |
| 4. called off | d. concerned |
| 5. protect | e. game |
| 6. recovering | f. wait |
| 7. operation | g. phoned |
| 8. delay | h. getting better |
| 9. worried | i. chance |
| 10. risk | j. abandoned |

Discussion – Student A

- What experiences do you have with ambulances?
- What are the good and bad things about ambulances?
- What is the longest it should take for an ambulance to arrive?
- What do you think about what you read?
- What would you do if you had to wait three hours for an ambulance?
- What do you think Mr Segadelli thought about?
- What do you think it's like to be an ambulance driver?
- What's the ambulance service like in your country?

BreakingNewsEnglish - The Mini Lesson

Phrase Match

1. A man who broke his leg waited
 2. rugby
 3. they waited for it to arrive but
 4. wait in the
 5. An ambulance finally
 6. recovering in
 7. I want an apology
 8. he was shaking
 9. there was a risk of him losing
 10. The ambulance service said it was very
- a. no ambulance came
 - b. for the delay
 - c. came three hours later
 - d. with cold
 - e. for three hours
 - f. busy that day
 - g. dark
 - h. his foot
 - i. match
 - j. hospital

Discussion – Student B

- a) What can the ambulance service do to stop this happening again?
- b) How important is an ambulance service?
- c) Should Mr Segadelli take the ambulance service to court?
- d) What would have happened if Mr Segadelli lost his foot?
- e) Should sports teams have their own ambulance?
- f) What advice do you have for Mr Segadelli?
- g) What should the ambulance service do to apologise?
- h) What questions would you like to ask Mr Segadelli?

Spelling

1. they waited for it to erraiv
2. Workers turned on the oliodgtshlf
3. His team put antkslbe on him
4. tproec him from the cold
5. his leg could become osrwe
6. An ambulance lyflina came
7. Segadelli is now revrngcioe in hospital
8. He had an oaiontepr
9. I want an ypogloa for the delay
10. he was nhasikg with cold
11. He said the aasprdcem were worried
12. The ambulance iscerev said it was very busy

Answers – Synonym Match

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

Role Play

Role A – An ambulance

You think an ambulance is the worst thing to wait for. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so bad. Also, tell the others which of these is the least difficult to wait for (and why): pay day, an apology or food to be served.

Role B – Pay day

You think pay day is the worst thing to wait for. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so bad. Also, tell the others which of these is the least difficult to wait for (and why): an ambulance, an apology or food to be served.

Role C – An apology

You think an apology is the worst thing to wait for. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so bad. Also, tell the others which of these is the least difficult to wait for (and why): pay day, an ambulance or food to be served.

Role D – Food to be served

You think food to be served is the worst thing to wait for. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so bad. Also, tell the others which of these is the least difficult to wait for (and why): pay day, an apology or an ambulance.

Speaking – Waiting

Rank these with your partner. Put the worst things to wait for at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- pay day
- an ambulance
- an apology
- an Internet connection
- the rain to stop
- a friend to arrive
- food to be served
- the dentist

Answers – True False

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