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Level 1 – 19th December 2024

Mystery drones in USA causing alarm

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241219-mystery-drones-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241219-mystery-drones-1.html>

Hundreds of people have seen "mystery drones" in the USA. Most of the sightings have been in the state of New Jersey. People there are worried because the drones are flying over army bases. A drone was also seen near one of Donald Trump's golf courses. An airfield in New York shut down for an hour last week because of "suspicious" drone activity. The government said the unidentified flying objects (UFOs) were not a danger to the public.

There are many conspiracy theories because of the drones. People on social media are saying Russia and China are spying on the USA. A US politician said the drones were coming from an Iranian ship. The US said if there was any "foreign involvement" or criminal activity, it would tell the American people. The FBI said most of the drone sightings were cases of "mistaken identity". It said people were "over-reacting" to news reports.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c62785697v0o>
<https://edition.cnn.com/2024/12/15/us/drone-sightings-east-coast/index.html>
<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/schumer-requests-360-degree-radar-system-ny-nj-detect-drones>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241219-mystery-drones-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Hundreds | a. objects (UFOs) |
| 2. People there | b. in New York |
| 3. flying over army | c. of people |
| 4. An airfield | d. to the public |
| 5. shut down | e. bases |
| 6. suspicious drone | f. for an hour |
| 7. unidentified flying | g. activity |
| 8. a danger | h. are worried |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. many conspiracy | a. politician |
| 2. People | b. on the USA |
| 3. spying | c. identity |
| 4. A US | d. on social media |
| 5. foreign | e. activity |
| 6. criminal | f. to news reports |
| 7. cases of mistaken | g. involvement |
| 8. people were "over-reacting" | h. theories |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241219-mystery-drones-1.html>

Hundreds of (1) _____ "mystery drones" in the USA. Most of the sightings (2) _____ the state of New Jersey. People there are (3) _____ drones are flying over army bases. A drone was (4) _____ one of Donald Trump's golf courses. An airfield in New York shut down (5) _____ last week because of "suspicious" drone activity. The government said the unidentified flying objects (UFOs) were (6) _____ to the public.

There (7) _____ theories because of the drones. People on social (8) _____ Russia and China are spying on the USA. A US politician said the drones were (9) _____ Iranian ship. The US said if there was any "foreign involvement" (10) _____, it would tell the American people. The FBI said most of the drone sightings (11) _____ "mistaken identity". It said people were "over-reacting" (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241219-mystery-drones-1.html>

Hundredsofpeoplehaveseen"mysterydrones"intheUSA.Mostofthesi
ghtingshavebeeninthestateofNewJersey.Peoplethereareworriedbec
ausethedronesareflyingoverarmybases.Adronewasalsoseennearon
eofDonaldTrump'sgolfcourses.AnairfieldinNewYorkshutdownforan
ourlastweekbecauseof"suspicious"droneactivity.Thegovernmentsai
dtheunidentifiedflyingobjects(UFOs)werenotadangertothepublic.Th
erearemanyconspiracytheoriesbecauseofthedrones.Peopleonsocial
mediaaresayingRussiaandChinaarespyingontheUSA.AUSpoliticians
aidthedroneswerecomingfromanIranianship.TheUSSaidiftherewasa
ny"foreigninvolvement"orcriminalactivity,itwouldtelltheAmericanp
eople.TheFBI saidmostofthedronesightingswererecasesof"mistakenid
entity".Itsaidpeoplewere"over-reacting"tonewsreports.

DRONES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241219-mystery-drones-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about drones 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.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

