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Level 2 – 19th December 2024

Mystery drones in USA causing alarm

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241219-mystery-drones-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241219-mystery-drones-2.html>

Hundreds of people have seen mystery drones across the USA. People started telling the police about the drones last month. Most of the sightings have been in the state of New Jersey. Residents there are worried because the drones have been flying above military bases. One drone was spotted 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 is unsure where the drones are from. It said the unidentified flying objects (UFOs) were not a danger to the public.

There are many conspiracy theories because of the drone sightings. People on social media are saying Russia and China are spying on the USA. A Republican politician said the drones were coming from an Iranian ship. The US Homeland Security Secretary said he knew of "no foreign involvement" with the sightings. He added that if there was any criminal activity, he would tell the American public. FBI investigators said most of the drone sightings were cases of "mistaken identity". It said people were "over-reacting" unnecessarily 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-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Hundreds | a. the drones are from |
| 2. People started telling the police | b. military bases |
| 3. Residents there | c. danger to the public |
| 4. flying above | d. about the drones |
| 5. suspicious drone | e. of people |
| 6. The government is unsure where | f. are worried |
| 7. unidentified | g. activity |
| 8. not a | h. flying objects (UFOs) |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. There are many conspiracy | a. USA |
| 2. the drone | b. unnecessarily |
| 3. People on | c. activity |
| 4. spying on the | d. sightings |
| 5. he knew of no foreign | e. "mistaken identity" |
| 6. if there was any criminal | f. theories |
| 7. cases of | g. involvement |
| 8. people were "over-reacting" | h. social media |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241219-mystery-drones-2.html>

(1) _____ have seen mystery drones across the USA. People started (2) _____ about the drones last month. Most of the sightings have been in the state of New Jersey. Residents (3) _____ because the drones have been flying above military bases. One drone (4) _____ one of Donald Trump's golf courses. An airfield in New York shut down for an (5) _____ because of "suspicious" drone activity. The government is unsure where the drones are from. It said the unidentified flying objects (UFOs) were not a danger (6) _____.

There are many (7) _____ of the drone sightings. People on social media are saying Russia and China (8) _____ the USA. A Republican politician said the drones were (9) _____ Iranian ship. The US Homeland Security Secretary said he (10) _____ "foreign involvement" with the sightings. He added that if there was any criminal activity, he would tell the American public. FBI investigators said (11) _____ drone sightings were cases of "mistaken identity". It said people were "over-reacting" unnecessarily (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241219-mystery-drones-2.html>

HundredsofpeoplehaveseenmysterydronesacrosstheUSA.Peoplestartedtellingthepoliceaboutthedroneslastmonth.MostofthesightingshavebeeninthestateofNewJersey.Residentsthereareworriedbecausehedroneshavebeenflyingabovemilitarybases.OnedronewasspottnearoneofDonaldTrump'sgolfcourses.AnairfieldinNewYorkshutdownforanhourlastweekbecauseof"suspicious"droneactivity.Thegovernmentisunsurewherethedronesarefrom.Itsaidtheunidentifiedflyingobjects(UFOs)werenotadangertothepublic.Therearemanyconspiracytheoriesbecauseofthedronesightings.PeopleonsocialmediaaresayingRussiaandChinaarespyingontheUSA.ARepublicanpoliticiansaidthedroneswerecomingfromanIranianship.TheUSHomelandSecuritySecretarysaidheknewof"noforeigninvolvement"withthesightings.Headedthatiftherewasanycriminalactivity,hewouldtelltheAmericanpublic.FBIinvestigatorssaidmostofthedronesightingswerecasessof"mistakenidentity".Itsaidpeoplewere"over-reacting"unnecessarilytonewsreports.

DRONES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241219-mystery-drones-2.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) _____

