

Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html

**Thousands more free lessons
from Sean's other websites**

www.freematerials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html

Level 3 – 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.html>

Contents

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|--|----|
| The Article | 2 | Discussion (Student-Created Qs) | 15 |
| Warm-Ups | 3 | Language Work (Cloze) | 16 |
| Vocabulary | 4 | Spelling | 17 |
| Before Reading / Listening | 5 | Put The Text Back Together | 18 |
| Gap Fill | 6 | Put The Words In The Right Order | 19 |
| Match The Sentences And Listen | 7 | Circle The Correct Word | 20 |
| Listening Gap Fill | 8 | Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u) | 21 |
| Comprehension Questions | 9 | Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals | 22 |
| Multiple Choice - Quiz | 10 | Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are | 23 |
| Role Play | 11 | Free Writing | 24 |
| After Reading / Listening | 12 | Academic Writing | 25 |
| Student Survey | 13 | Homework | 26 |
| Discussion (20 Questions) | 14 | Answers | 27 |

Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

X (Twitter)



[X.com/SeanBanville](https://x.com/SeanBanville)

Facebook



www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176

THE ARTICLE

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

There have been hundreds of sightings of mystery drones across the USA. People first started telling the police about the drones last month. Since then, more and more people have reported seeing them. Most of the sightings have been in the state of New Jersey. Residents there are concerned because the drones have been flying above military bases. One drone was spotted near Donald Trump's golf course in New Jersey. Stewart Airfield in New York state shut down for an hour last week because of "suspicious" drone activity. US authorities said they are unsure where the drones are from. A spokesperson said the unidentified flying objects (UFOs) were not a danger to the public.

Many conspiracy theories have started online because of the drone sightings. Some people on social media are saying Russia and China are using the objects to spy on the USA. A New Jersey Republican representative said the drones were coming from an "Iranian mothership" in the Atlantic Ocean. The US Homeland Security Secretary told ABC News that he knew of "no foreign involvement with respect to the sightings". He added: "If we identify any foreign involvement or criminal activity, we will communicate with the American public." FBI investigators said most of the drone sightings were cases of "mistaken identity" and that 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>

WARM-UPS

1. DRONES: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about drones. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

sightings / mystery / drones / police / concerned / military bases / suspicious / danger
conspiracy theory / social media / spy / criminal activity / mistaken identity / news

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

3. UFOs: Students A **strongly** believe UFOs and aliens exist; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. CONSPIRACY THEORIES: What do you think of these conspiracy theories? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

| | What You Think | Why? |
|--------------------------------|----------------|------|
| The moon landing is a hoax | | |
| Climate change isn't real | | |
| Vaccines contain microchips | | |
| Wi-fi causes brain cancer | | |
| The earth is flat | | |
| Reptiles run the US government | | |

5. SPY: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "spy". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. DRONES: Rank these with your partner. Put the best uses of drones at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Spying
- Food delivery
- Taxis
- Warfare
- Aerial photos
- Search and rescue
- Emergency response
- Traffic monitoring

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. sightings | a. Related to soldiers or the army. |
| 2. residents | b. A place where soldiers, ships, or airplanes stay and work. |
| 3. concerned | c. When someone sees something, especially something unusual or strange. |
| 4. military | d. Something that looks strange or not right; something you think is bad. |
| 5. base | e. People who live in a place. |
| 6. unidentified | f. Worried about something. |
| 7. suspicious | g. Not known; no one knows what it is or who it is. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 8. conspiracy theory | h. When someone thinks a person or thing is someone or something. |
| 9. spy (verb) | i. An idea that something secret or bad is happening, but there is no proof. |
| 10. representative | j. To watch someone or something secretly to get information. |
| 11. foreign | k. Being part of an activity or something happening. |
| 12. involvement | l. From another country. |
| 13. criminal (adjective) | m. A person who speaks or acts for a group of people. |
| 14. mistaken identity | n. Related to breaking the law; doing something illegal. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

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

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

1. There have been thousands of mysterious drone sightings in the USA. **T / F**
2. People started telling the police about the drones last week. **T / F**
3. The drones have been flying over military bases. **T / F**
4. Authorities in the USA told people they are not in danger. **T / F**
5. One conspiracy theory says the drones are from Canada. **T / F**
6. The USA said the drones are being used for spying purposes. **T / F**
7. The USA said there is no sign of criminal activity regarding the drones. **T / F**
8. The FBI said news reports are making people over-react. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. mystery | a. unknown |
| 2. residents | b. camps |
| 3. bases | c. participation |
| 4. spotted | d. locals |
| 5. unidentified | e. illegal |
| 6. spy | f. people |
| 7. involvement | g. puzzling |
| 8. criminal | h. wrong |
| 9. public | i. gather intelligence |
| 10. mistaken | j. sighted |

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

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. There have been hundreds of sightings | a. on the USA |
| 2. more and more people | b. military bases |
| 3. drones have been flying above | c. unnecessarily |
| 4. they are unsure where the | d. to the public |
| 5. UFOs were not a danger | e. involvement |
| 6. conspiracy | f. have reported seeing them |
| 7. using the objects to spy | g. of mistaken identity |
| 8. he knew of no foreign | h. of mystery drones |
| 9. the drone sightings were cases | i. theories |
| 10. people were "over-reacting" | j. drones are from |

GAP FILL

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

There have been hundreds of (1) _____ of mystery drones across the USA. People first started telling the police about the drones last month. Since then, (2) _____ and more people have reported seeing them. Most of the sightings have been in the (3) _____ of New Jersey. Residents there are concerned because the drones have been flying above military (4) _____. One drone was spotted near Donald Trump's golf (5) _____ in New Jersey. Stewart Airfield in New York state (6) _____ down for an hour last week because of "suspicious" drone activity. US authorities said they are (7) _____ where the drones are from. A spokesperson said the unidentified flying objects (UFOs) were not a (8) _____ to the public.

state
course
danger
sightings
unsure
more
bases
shut

Many conspiracy (9) _____ have started online because of the drone sightings. Some people on (10) _____ media are saying Russia and China are using the objects to (11) _____ on the USA. A New Jersey Republican representative said the drones were (12) _____ from an "Iranian mothership" in the Atlantic Ocean. The US Homeland Security Secretary told ABC News that he knew of "no foreign involvement with (13) _____ to the sightings". He added: "If we identify any foreign involvement or (14) _____ activity, we will communicate with the American public." FBI investigators said most of the drone sightings were (15) _____ of "mistaken identity" and that people were "over-reacting" unnecessarily to news (16) _____.

coming
reports
social
respect
theories
cases
spy
criminal

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

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

- 1) There have been hundreds of sightings of mystery drones _____
 - a. address the USA
 - b. a cross the USA
 - c. across a USA
 - d. across the USA
- 2) People first started telling the police about the _____
 - a. drones least month
 - b. drones lastly month
 - c. drones lasts month
 - d. drones last month
- 3) Residents there are concerned because the drones have been flying _____
 - a. above military bases
 - b. above military basis
 - c. above military vases
 - d. above military basest
- 4) One drone was spotted near Donald _____
 - a. Trump's golf coarse
 - b. Trump's golf course
 - c. Trump's golf curse
 - d. Trump's golf cuss
- 5) A spokesperson said the unidentified flying objects (UFOs) were not a danger _____
 - a. to the publicly
 - b. to the pub lick
 - c. to the public
 - d. to the publicity
- 6) people on social media are saying Russia and China are using the _____
 - a. objects twos pie
 - b. objects to spy
 - c. objects too spy
 - d. objects two spies
- 7) The US Homeland Security Secretary told ABC News that he knew of _____
 - a. no foreign involve meant
 - b. no foreign involve mint
 - c. no foreign involvement
 - d. no foreign involved meant
- 8) If we identify any foreign involvement _____
 - a. or crime in all activity
 - b. or criminal activity
 - c. or criminal actively
 - d. of criminal activity
- 9) FBI investigators said most of the drone sightings were cases _____
 - a. of mistaken identities
 - b. of mistaken identify
 - c. of mistaken identity
 - d. of mistaken identification
- 10) people were "over-reacting" unnecessarily _____
 - a. to news reports
 - b. to new reports
 - c. two news reports
 - d. to news report

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

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

There have been hundreds (1) _____ mystery drones across the USA. People first started telling the police about the drones last month. Since then, (2) _____ people have reported seeing them. 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) _____ Donald Trump's golf course in New Jersey. Stewart Airfield in New York state shut down for (5) _____ week because of "suspicious" drone activity. US authorities said they are unsure where the drones are from. A spokesperson said the unidentified flying objects (UFOs) were not a danger (6) _____.

Many conspiracy (7) _____ online because of the drone sightings. Some people on social media are saying Russia and China are using the objects (8) _____ the USA. A New Jersey Republican representative said the drones were (9) _____ "Iranian mothership" in the Atlantic Ocean. The US Homeland Security Secretary told ABC News that he knew of "no foreign involvement (10) _____ the sightings". He added: "If (11) _____ foreign involvement or criminal activity, we will communicate with the American public." FBI investigators said most of the drone sightings were cases (12) _____ and that people were "over-reacting" unnecessarily to news reports.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

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

1. How many sightings of mystery drones have there been in the USA?
2. When did people start to tell the police about the drones?
3. What have the drones been flying over?
4. Whose golf course was a drone spotted near?
5. Where did US authorities say the drones are from?
6. What has started online?
7. Where did a Republican politician say the drones were from?
8. Who did the US Homeland Security Secretary speak to?
9. Who said many of the drone sightings were mistaken identity?
10. What did the FBI say people were over-reacting to?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

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

- 1) How many sightings of mystery drones have there been in the USA?
 - a) millions
 - b) hundreds of thousands
 - c) thousands
 - d) hundreds
- 2) When did people start to tell the police about the drones?
 - a) a few days ago
 - b) last month
 - c) the week before last
 - d) several years ago
- 3) What have the drones been flying over?
 - a) nuclear facilities
 - b) politicians' houses
 - c) government buildings
 - d) military bases
- 4) Whose golf course was a drone spotted near?
 - a) Tiger Woods
 - b) Joe Biden
 - c) Donald Trump
 - d) Shohei Ohtani
- 5) Where did US authorities say the drones are from?
 - a) China
 - b) Iran
 - c) Russia
 - d) They don't know.
- 6) What has started online?
 - a) an anti-drone website
 - b) a petition
 - c) conspiracy theories
 - d) a new blog
- 7) Where did a Republican politician say the drones were from?
 - a) an Iranian mothership
 - b) the fatherland
 - c) a sister city
 - d) the homeland
- 8) Who did the US Homeland Security Secretary speak to?
 - a) CNN
 - b) BBC News
 - c) ABC News
 - d) NBC News
- 9) Who said many of the drone sightings were mistaken identity?
 - a) the WHO
 - b) the FBI
 - c) the UFO
 - d) NASA
- 10) What did the FBI say people were over-reacting to?
 - a) news reports
 - b) a phobia of drones
 - c) conspiracy theories
 - d) the US Homeland Security Secretary

ROLE PLAY

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

Role A – Spying

You think spying is the best use of drones. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their uses. Also, tell the others which is the worst use of these (and why): food delivery, search and rescue or warfare.

Role B – Food Delivery

You think food delivery is the best use of drones. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their uses. Also, tell the others which is the worst use of these (and why): spying, search and rescue or warfare.

Role C – Search and Rescue

You think search and rescue is the best use of drones. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their uses. Also, tell the others which is the worst use of these (and why): food delivery, spying or warfare.

Role D – Warfare

You think warfare is the best use of drones. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their uses. Also, tell the others which is the worst use of these (and why): food delivery, search and rescue or spying.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

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

1. WORD SEARCH: Look online / in your dictionary to find collocates, information on, synonyms for... the words 'mystery' and 'drone'.

| mystery | drone |
|---------|-------|
| | |

- 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">• across• last• since• above• near• danger | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• started• social• coming• respect• FBI• news |
|---|--|

DRONES SURVEY

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

DRONES DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'mystery'?
3. What do you think of drones?
4. Have you ever seen something mysterious in the sky?
5. How useful are drones?
6. In what ways could drones be dangerous?
7. Would you worry if a drone was above your house?
8. Should the police shoot the drones?
9. Why might a drone be above Donald Trump's golf course?
10. Do you think UFOs exist?

Mystery drones in USA causing alarm – 19th December 2024
Thousands more free lessons at breakingnewsenglish.com

DRONES DISCUSSION

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

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'drone'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you think of conspiracy theories?
15. Why do people believe conspiracy theories?
16. What should the USA do if the drones are Russian, Chinese or Iranian?
17. How might criminals use drones?
18. Have you ever mistaken someone's identity?
19. Are you looking forward to food delivery by drones?
20. What questions would you like to ask a drone expert?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Copyright © breakingnewsenglish.com 2024

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

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

There have been hundreds of sightings (1) _____ mystery drones across the USA. People first started telling the police about the drones last month. Since (2) _____, more and more people have reported seeing them. Most of the sightings have been in the (3) _____ of New Jersey. Residents there are concerned because the drones have been flying above military bases. One drone was (4) _____ near Donald Trump's golf course in New Jersey. Stewart Airfield in New York state shut down for an hour last week (5) _____ of "suspicious" drone activity. US authorities said they are unsure where the drones are from. A spokesperson said the unidentified (6) _____ objects (UFOs) were not a danger to the public.

Many conspiracy (7) _____ have started online because of the drone sightings. Some people on social media are saying Russia and China are using the objects to (8) _____ on the USA. A New Jersey Republican representative said the drones were coming from an "Iranian mothership" in the Atlantic (9) _____. The US Homeland Security Secretary told ABC News that he knew of "no foreign involvement with respect to the sightings". He added: "If we (10) _____ any foreign involvement or criminal activity, we will communicate with the American (11) _____." FBI investigators said most of the drone sightings were cases of "mistaken identity" and that people were "(12) _____-reacting" unnecessarily to news reports.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 1. | (a) at | (b) to | (c) of | (d) by |
| 2. | (a) then | (b) that | (c) there | (d) them |
| 3. | (a) state | (b) mess | (c) condition | (d) say |
| 4. | (a) spotted | (b) spotty | (c) spotter | (d) spots |
| 5. | (a) due | (b) because | (c) rather | (d) however |
| 6. | (a) flies | (b) flown | (c) flew | (d) flying |
| 7. | (a) theorize | (b) theory | (c) theories | (d) theoretical |
| 8. | (a) spied | (b) spying | (c) spies | (d) spy |
| 9. | (a) Ocean | (b) Sea | (c) Strait | (d) Lake |
| 10. | (a) identity | (b) identify | (c) identities | (d) identification |
| 11. | (a) privacy | (b) public | (c) publicity | (d) private |
| 12. | (a) under | (b) pre | (c) over | (d) post |

SPELLING

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

Paragraph 1

1. hundreds of ignhgisst of mystery drones
2. tsersnedi there are concerned
3. above aiymtlir bases
4. socisspiuu drone activity
5. U.S. uiiettoashr said they are unsure
6. inniudtdefie flying objects

Paragraph 2

7. parnicscopy theories
8. A New Jersey Republican peeeersivtrtan
9. he knew of no gferion involvement
10. nrmciial activity
11. moeictcnmua with the American public
12. mistaken tdyneiit

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

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

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () course in New Jersey. Stewart Airfield in New York state shut down for an hour last week because of "suspicious"
- () drone activity. US authorities said they are unsure where the drones are from. A spokesperson
- () them. Most of the sightings have been in the state of New Jersey. Residents there are concerned because the drones have
- () ABC News that he knew of "no foreign involvement with respect to the sightings". He added: "If we identify any foreign
- () Many conspiracy theories have started online because of the drone sightings. Some people on social media
- () involvement or criminal activity, we will communicate with the American public." FBI
- () said the unidentified flying objects (UFOs) were not a danger to the public.
- () investigators said most of the drone sightings were cases of "mistaken
- (**1**) There have been hundreds of sightings of mystery drones across the USA. People first started telling the
- () been flying above military bases. One drone was spotted near Donald Trump's golf
- () were coming from an "Iranian mothership" in the Atlantic Ocean. The US Homeland Security Secretary told
- () are saying Russia and China are using the objects to spy on the USA. A New Jersey Republican representative said the drones
- () police about the drones last month. Since then, more and more people have reported seeing
- () identity" and that people were "over-reacting" unnecessarily to news reports.

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

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

1. There of been have of hundreds sightings drones .
2. started People telling the the drones . about police
3. drones been flying above bases . The military have
4. are are from . Authorities the unsure drones where
5. objects not The a unidentified flying danger . were
6. Conspiracy because theories online started of drones . have
7. the on Using objects the USA . to spy
8. drones mothership . coming Iranian an from were The
9. mistaken sightings were cases identity . drone of Most
10. unnecessarily were People reports . news over-reacting to

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

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

There have been *hundreds / hundred* of sightings of mystery drones across the USA. People first *started / starting* telling the police about the drones last month. Since *then / that*, more and more people have reported *seen / seeing* them. Most of the sightings have been in the state of New Jersey. Residents there are *cornered / concerned* because the drones have been flying *above / top* military bases. One drone was spotted near Donald Trump's golf course in New Jersey. Stewart Airfield in New York state shut *up / down* for an hour last week because of "suspicious" drone activity. US authorities said they are unsure where the drones *be / are* from. A spokesperson said the unidentified *flying / fling* objects (UFOs) were not a danger *at / to* the public.

Many conspiracy theories have *stated / started* online because of the drone sightings. Some people *on / in* social media are saying Russia and China are using the objects *to / for* spy on the USA. A New Jersey Republican representative said the drones were coming from an "Iranian mothership" in the Atlantic *Sea / Ocean*. The US Homeland Security Secretary told ABC News that he *knew / know* of, "no foreign involvement with respect *at / to* the sightings". He added: "If we *identify / identity* any foreign involvement or criminal activity, we will communicate *with / on* the American public." FBI investigators said most of the drone sightings were *cases / boxes* of "mistaken identity" and that people were "over-reacting" unnecessarily to news *report / reports*.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.

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

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

Th_r_ h_v_ b__n h_ndr_ds _f s_gh_t_ngs _f myst_ry
dr_n_s _cr_ss th_ _S_. P__pl_ f_rst st_rt_d t_ll_ng th_
p_l_c_ _b__t th_ dr_n_s l_st m_nth. S_nc_ th_n, m_r_
_nd m_r_ p__pl_ h_v_ r_p_rt_d s___ng th_m. M_st _f
th_ s_gh_t_ngs h_v_ b__n _n th_ st_t_ _f N_w J_rs_y.
R_s_d_nts th_r_ _r_ c_nc_rn_d b_c__s_ th_ dr_n_s
h_v_ b__n fly_ng _b_v_ m_l_t_ry b_s_s. _n_ dr_n_ w_s
sp_tt_d n__r D_n_ld Tr_m_p's g_lf c__rs_ _n N_w
J_rs_y. St_w_rt __rf__ld _n N_w Y_rk st_t_ sh_t d_wn
f_r _n h__r l_st w__k b_c__s_ _f "s_sp_c___s" dr_n_
_ct_v_ty. _S_ __th_r_t__s s__d th_y _r_ _ns_r_ wh_r_
th_ dr_n_s _r_ fr_m. _ sp_k_sp_rs_n s__d th_
_n_d_nt_f__d fly_ng _bj_cts (_F_s) w_r_ n_t _ d_ng_r
t_ th_ p_bl_c.

M_ny c_nsp_r_cy th__r__s h_v_ st_rt_d _nl_n_ b_c__s_
f th dr_n_ s_gh_t_ngs. S_m_ p__pl_ _n s_c__l m_d__
r s_y_ng R_ss__ _nd Ch_n_ _r_ _s_ng th_ _bj_cts
t_ spy _n th_ _S_. _ N_w J_rs_y R_p_bl_c_n
r_pr_s_nt_t_v_ s__d th_ dr_n_s w_r_ c_m_ng fr_m _n
"_r_n__n m_th_rsh_p" _n th_ _tl_nt_c _c__n. Th_ _S_
H_m_l_nd S_c_r_ty S_cr_t_ry t_ld _BC N_ws th_t h_
kn_w _f "n_ f_r__gn _nv_lv_m_nt w_th r_sp_ct t_ th_
s_gh_t_ngs". H_ _dd_d: "_f w_ _d_nt_fy _ny f_r__gn
_nv_lv_m_nt _r_ cr_m_n_l _ct_v_ty, w_ w_ll
c_mm_n_c_t_ w_th th_ _m_r_c_n p_bl_c." FB_
_nv_st_g_t_rs s__d m_st _f th_ dr_n_ s_gh_t_ngs w_r_
c_s_s _f "m_st_k_n _d_nt_ty" _nd th_t p__pl_ w_r_
"_v_r-r__ct_ng" _nn_c_ss_r_ly t_ n_ws r_p_rts.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

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

there have been hundreds of sightings of mystery drones across the usa people first started telling the police about the drones last month since then more and more people have reported seeing them most of the sightings have been in the state of new jersey residents there are concerned because the drones have been flying above military bases one drone was spotted near donald trump's golf course in new jersey stewart airfield in new york state shut down for an hour last week because of suspicious drone activity us authorities said they are unsure where the drones are from a spokesperson said the unidentified flying objects ufos were not a danger to the public

many conspiracy theories have started online because of the drone sightings some people on social media are saying russia and china are using the objects to spy on the usa a new jersey republican representative said the drones were coming from an iranian mothership in the atlantic ocean the us homeland security secretary told abc news that he knew of no foreign involvement with respect to the sightings he added if we identify any foreign involvement or criminal activity we will communicate with the american public fbi investigators said most of the drone sightings were cases of mistaken identity and that people were overreacting unnecessarily to news reports

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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

There have been hundreds of sightings of mystery drones across the USA. People first started telling the police about the drones last month. Since then, more and more people have reported seeing them. Most of the sightings have been in the state of New Jersey. Residents there are concerned because the drones have been flying above military bases. One drone was spotted near Donald Trump's golf course in New Jersey. Stewart Airfield in New York states shut down for an hour last week because of "suspicious" drone activity. US authorities said they are unsure where the drones are from. A spokesperson said the unidentified flying objects (UFOs) were not a danger to the public. Many conspiracy theories have started online because of the drone sightings. Some people on social media are saying Russia and China are using the objects to spy on the USA. A New Jersey Republican representative said the drones were coming from an "Iranian mothership" in the Atlantic Ocean. The US Homeland Security Secretary told ABC News that he knew of "no foreign involvement with respect to the sightings". He added: "If we identify any foreign involvement or criminal activity, we will communicate with the American public." FBI investigators said most of the drone sightings were cases of "mistaken identity" and that people were "over-reacting" unnecessarily to news reports.

FREE WRITING

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

Write about **drones** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner’s paper.

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 this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

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

4. DRONE LICENSES: Write a magazine article about requiring anyone with a drone to need a license. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

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 an expert on drones. Ask him/her three questions about drones. Give him/her three of your ideas. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. c 2. e 3. f 4. a 5. b 6. g 7. d
8. i 9. j 10. m 11. l 12. k 13. n 14. h

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F 2 F 3 T 4 T 5 F 6 F 7 T 8 T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Hundreds
- Last month
- Military bases
- Donald Trump
- They don't know
- Conspiracy theories
- An Iranian mothership
- ABC News
- The FBI
- News reports

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- There have been hundreds of sightings of drones.
- People started telling the police about the drones.
- The drones have been flying above military bases.
- Authorities are unsure where the drones are from.
- The unidentified flying objects were not a danger.
- Conspiracy theories have started online because of drones.
- Using the objects to spy on the USA.
- The drones were coming from an Iranian mothership.
- Most drone sightings were cases of mistaken identity.
- People were over-reacting unnecessarily to news reports.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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