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**Level 5 – 1st September, 2021**

## **Hero mother saves son from mountain lion attack**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2109/210901-hero-mother-5.html>

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**Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2109/210901-hero-mother-5.html>

A woman has been called a hero after fighting off a mountain lion that was attacking her five-year-old son. Her motherly instincts appeared as she dragged her little boy away from the big cat. She beat the wild animal with her fists in her garden, where her son had been playing. The boy suffered bites and cuts to his head and body after the lion pounced. He is now in a stable condition in a local hospital. He is expected to make a full recovery. A spokesperson from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife said the mother was a "true hero" for saving her son's life.

The mountain lion was a juvenile. It was less than a year old and was probably practising its hunting skills. Officials shot the lion near the boy's home after it was acting aggressively. The officials stated: "Wildlife forensics scientists analyzed samples from underneath the claws of the suspect lion carcass and isolated traces of human tissue and blood with a DNA profile that matched the [boy]." They said the results showed that it was the lion that attacked the boy. A different mountain lion was also found at the scene. It was shot with a non-lethal tranquilizer and then released.

Sources: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2021/08/29/california-mom-fights-mountain-lion-attacked-5-year-old-son/5643763001/>  
<https://www.foxnews.com/great-outdoors/california-mom-mountain-lion-attack-bare-hands>  
<https://news.yahoo.com/california-mother-fought-mountain-lion-103022874.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2109/210901-hero-mother-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                             |                    |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. motherly                 | a. pounced         |
| 2. She beat the wild animal | b. a full recovery |
| 3. The boy suffered         | c. instincts       |
| 4. after the lion           | d. hero            |
| 5. He is now in a stable    | e. bites and cuts  |
| 6. in a local               | f. with her fists  |
| 7. He is expected to make   | g. hospital        |
| 8. a true                   | h. condition       |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                  |                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. The mountain lion was a       | a. profile      |
| 2. practising its hunting        | b. scene        |
| 3. it was acting                 | c. claws        |
| 4. forensics scientists analyzed | d. tranquilizer |
| 5. underneath the                | e. aggressively |
| 6. a DNA                         | f. juvenile     |
| 7. also found at the             | g. samples      |
| 8. shot with a non-lethal        | h. skills       |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2109/210901-hero-mother-5.html>

A woman has been (1) \_\_\_\_\_ after fighting off a mountain lion that (2) \_\_\_\_\_ five-year-old son. Her motherly instincts appeared (3) \_\_\_\_\_ her little boy away from the big cat. She beat (4) \_\_\_\_\_ with her fists in her garden, where her son had been playing. The boy suffered bites and cuts to his head and body after the lion pounced. He is now in (5) \_\_\_\_\_ in a local hospital. He is expected to make (6) \_\_\_\_\_. A spokesperson from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife said the mother was a "true hero" for saving her son's life.

The mountain lion (7) \_\_\_\_\_. It was less than a year old and was probably practising its hunting skills. Officials shot the lion near the boy's home after it (8) \_\_\_\_\_. The officials stated: "Wildlife (9) \_\_\_\_\_ samples from underneath the claws of the suspect lion carcass and isolated traces of (10) \_\_\_\_\_ blood with a DNA profile that matched the [boy]." They said the (11) \_\_\_\_\_ it was the lion that attacked the boy. A different mountain lion was also found at the scene. It was shot with a (12) \_\_\_\_\_ and then released.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2109/210901-hero-mother-5.html>

A woman has been called a hero after fighting off a mountain lion that was attacking her five-year-old son. Her motherly instincts appeared as she dragged her little boy away from the big cat. She beat the wild animal with her fists in her garden, where her son had been playing. The boy suffered bites and cuts to his head and body after the lion pounced. He is now in a stable condition in a local hospital. He is expected to make a full recovery. A spokesperson from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife said the mother was a "true hero" for saving her son's life. The mountain lion was a juvenile. It was less than a year old and was probably practising its hunting skills. Officials shot the lion near the boy's home after it was acting aggressively. The officials stated: "Wildlife forensic scientists analyzed samples from underneath the claw of the suspect lion carcass and isolated traces of human tissue and blood with a DNA profile that matched the [boy]." They said the results showed that it was the lion that attacked the boy. A different mountain lion was also found at the scene. It was shot with a non-lethal tranquilizer and then released.

# MOTHERS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2109/210901-hero-mother-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about mothers 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) \_\_\_\_\_

# WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2109/210901-hero-mother-5.html>

Write about **mothers** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner’s paper.

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