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Level 6

Hacked Sony film raises US - N. Korea tensions

21st December, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1412/141221-the-interview.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141221-the-interview.html>

Tensions between the USA and North Korea are rising following the cyber-attack on the film company Sony Pictures, and the subsequent decision by Sony to cancel all screenings of its movie 'The Interview'. The cancelled film is a political action comedy about two US journalists who arrange an interview with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un with the intention of assassinating him. A group calling itself The Guardians of Peace has claimed responsibility for the attack. It warned that it would attack 9/11 style any cinema that showed the movie. It also threatened Sony that it would put online more confidential data that could damage the company if it did not pull the movie.

Sony canceled the release of its movie "in the interests of public safety" after several US cinema chains refused to screen it. This has caused a storm of protest in America. President Obama said: "We cannot have a society in which some dictators some place can start imposing censorship here." He added: "Imagine what they start doing once they see a documentary that they don't like or news reports that they don't like." Senator John McCain called the cyber-attack "an act of war" and "the greatest blow to free speech" he had seen in his lifetime. Another politician said: "America has lost its first cyber-war." Actor Rob Lowe tweeted: "Everyone caved [in]. The hackers won. An utter and complete victory for them."

Sources: <http://edition.cnn.com/2014/12/19/politics/fbi-north-korea-responsible-sony/>
<http://news.sky.com/story/1393913/actors-slam-hollywood-for-caving-in-to-threats>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-30530361>

WARM-UPS

1. WORLD TENSIONS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about world tensions. 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?

tensions / film company / decisions / comedy / interview / responsibility / confidential / public safety / cinema / protest / censorship / documentary / free speech / hackers

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

3. TENSIONS: How can the world diffuse tensions over these things? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How big a problem?	How to resolve it?
Hacking		
Hostages		
Embargoes		
Nuclear testing		
Human rights		
No democracy		

4. THE INTERVIEW: Students A **strongly** believe Sony should screen the movie 'The Interview'; Students B **strongly** believe Sony should never screen it. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. MOVIES: Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- comedies
- sci-fi
- mysteries
- horror
- action
- animation
- animal stories
- romance

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

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141221-the-interview.html>

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

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. Tensions are rising between the USA and Sony Pictures. | T / F |
| b. The movie 'The Interview' is a documentary. | T / F |
| c. A group called The Guardians of Peace said it hacked Sony. | T / F |
| d. The group said it would not upload any more data about Sony. | T / F |
| e. Sony said it cancelled screenings because of fears about public safety. | T / F |
| f. President Obama said dictators could not censor things in the USA. | T / F |
| g. A senator said the canceling of the screenings greatly hurt free speech. | T / F |
| h. An actor said Sony was the victor against the hackers. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1. tensions | a. objection |
| 2. subsequent | b. total |
| 3. intention | c. top secret |
| 4. threatened | d. collapsed |
| 5. confidential | e. following |
| 6. protest | f. disaster |
| 7. dictators | g. warned |
| 8. blow | h. strained relations |
| 9. caved in | i. autocrats |
| 10. utter | j. aim |

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

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. the subsequent | a. responsibility |
| 2. a political action | b. to free speech |
| 3. The Guardians of Peace has claimed | c. data |
| 4. It also threatened | d. of public safety |
| 5. confidential | e. of protest |
| 6. in the interests | f. Sony |
| 7. This has caused a storm | g. victory for them |
| 8. an act | h. decision by Sony |
| 9. the greatest blow | i. of war |
| 10. An utter and complete | j. comedy |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141221-the-interview.html>

Tensions between the USA and North Korea are rising (1) _____ the cyber-attack on the film company Sony Pictures, and the (2) _____ decision by Sony to cancel all screenings of its movie 'The Interview'. The cancelled film is a (3) _____ action comedy about two US journalists who (4) _____ an interview with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un with the intention of assassinating him. A group calling (5) _____ The Guardians of Peace has claimed responsibility for the attack. It warned that it would (6) _____ 9/11 style any cinema that showed the movie. It also threatened Sony that it would put (7) _____ more confidential data that could damage the company if it did not (8) _____ the movie.

arrange
pull
subsequent
attack
following
online
political
itself

Sony canceled the (9) _____ of its movie "in the interests of public safety" after several US cinema chains (10) _____ to screen it. This has caused a storm of protest in America. President Obama said: "We cannot have a society in which some (11) _____ some place can start imposing censorship here." He added: "Imagine what they start doing once they see a (12) _____ that they don't like or news reports that they don't like." Senator John McCain called the cyber-attack "an act of (13) _____ " and "the greatest (14) _____ to free speech" he had seen in his lifetime. Another politician said: "America has lost its first cyber-war." Actor Rob Lowe tweeted: "Everyone (15) _____ [in]. The hackers won. An utter and complete (16) _____ for them."

blow
caved
refused
war
documentary
release
victory
dictators

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141221-the-interview.html>

- 1) Tensions between the USA and North Korea _____
 - a. are rising
 - b. are arisen
 - c. are risen
 - d. are raising
- 2) the subsequent decision by Sony to cancel all _____ movie
 - a. screening of its
 - b. screen ins of its
 - c. screenings of its
 - d. screen sings of its
- 3) The cancelled film is a political _____
 - a. action comedic
 - b. action comedies
 - c. action comedian
 - d. action comedy
- 4) It warned that it would attack 9/11 style any cinema that _____
 - a. show the movie
 - b. showing the movie
 - c. showed the movie
 - d. should the movie
- 5) put online more confidential data that could damage the company _____ the movie
 - a. if it did not push
 - b. if it did not pull
 - c. if it did not tug
 - d. if it did not pool
- 6) Sony canceled the release of its movie "in the interests _____"
 - a. of publicity safety
 - b. of publics safety
 - c. of publically safety
 - d. of public safety
- 7) This has caused a storm of _____
 - a. protested in America
 - b. protest in America
 - c. protestors in America
 - d. protestation in America
- 8) Imagine what they start doing once they see a _____ they don't like
 - a. document tree that
 - b. dock you meant tree that
 - c. documented tree that
 - d. documentary that
- 9) John McCain called the cyber-attack "an act of war" and "the greatest _____ speech"
 - a. blow to free
 - b. bloat to free
 - c. brow to free
 - d. balloon to free
- 10) Everyone caved [in]. The hackers won. An utter and complete _____
 - a. victorious for them
 - b. victories for them
 - c. victory for them
 - d. victor tree for them

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141221-the-interview.html>

Tensions between the USA and North Korea (1) _____ the cyber-attack on the film company Sony Pictures, and the subsequent decision by Sony to (2) _____ of its movie 'The Interview'. The cancelled film is a (3) _____ about two US journalists who (4) _____ with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un with the intention of assassinating him. A group calling itself The Guardians of Peace has (5) _____ for the attack. It warned that it would attack 9/11 style any cinema that showed the movie. It also threatened Sony that it would put online more (6) _____ could damage the company if it did not pull the movie.

Sony canceled (7) _____ movie "in the interests of public safety" after several US cinema chains (8) _____. This has caused a storm of protest in America. President Obama said: "We cannot have (9) _____ some dictators some place can start imposing censorship here." He added: "Imagine what they start doing once they see (10) _____ they don't like or news reports that they don't like." Senator John McCain called the cyber-attack "an act of war" and "the greatest (11) _____" he had seen in his lifetime. Another politician said: "America has lost its first cyber-war." Actor Rob Lowe tweeted: "Everyone caved [in]. The hackers won. An utter and (12) _____."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141221-the-interview.html>

1. What is rising between North Korea and the USA?

2. What did Sony cancel?

3. How many journalists is the movie about?

4. What is the name of the group claiming the attack?

5. What did the group tell Sony it would put online?

6. In whose interests did Sony cancel the release of the movie?

7. What did Barack Obama say dictators could not start doing in the USA?

8. What kind of blow did John McCain talk about?

9. What did another politician say America had lost?

10. Who did an actor say had caved in?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141221-the-interview.html>

1. What is rising between North Korea and the USA?
 - a) propaganda
 - b) competition
 - c) oil prices
 - d) tensions
2. What did Sony cancel?
 - a) film production
 - b) screenings of its movie
 - c) actors' contracts
 - d) a press conference
3. How many journalists is the movie about?
 - a) 4
 - b) 3
 - c) 2
 - d) 1
4. What is the name of the group claiming the attack?
 - a) Guardians Of Peace
 - b) Piece of Guardians
 - c) Gardens of Peace
 - d) The Peace Gardens
5. What did the group tell Sony it would put online?
 - a) its own movie
 - b) movie scripts
 - c) confidential data
 - d) videos
6. In whose interests did Sony cancel the release of the movie?
 - a) those of Sony bosses
 - b) the public's
 - c) the FBI's
 - d) the world's
7. What did Barack Obama say dictators could not start doing in the USA?
 - a) making movies
 - b) opening cinemas
 - c) starting political parties
 - d) imposing censorship
8. What kind of blow did John McCain talk about?
 - a) a blow to free speech
 - b) a burst car tyre
 - c) a bomb
 - d) a blow to the head
9. What did another politician say America had lost?
 - a) face
 - b) its way
 - c) its first cyber-war
 - d) documents
10. Who did an actor say had caved in?
 - a) Sony executives
 - b) everyone
 - c) actors
 - d) the North Koreans

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141221-the-interview.html>

Role A – Comedies

You think comedies are the best kind of movies. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their movies aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): science fiction, romantic dramas or action.

Role B – Science fiction

You think science fiction is the best kind of movies. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their movies aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): comedies, romantic dramas or action.

Role C – Romantic dramas

You think romantic dramas are the best kind of movies. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their movies aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): science fiction, comedies or action.

Role D – Action

You think action is the best kind of movies. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their movies aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): science fiction, romantic dramas or comedies.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141221-the-interview.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'cyber' and 'attack'.

cyber	attack
--------------	---------------

- 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">• rising• decision• action• arrange• style• pull	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• several• storm• start• reports• blow• complete
---	---

WORLD TENSIONS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141221-the-interview.html>

Write five GOOD questions about world tensions 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.

WORLD TENSIONS DISCUSSION

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

- 1) What did you think when you read the headline?
- 2) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'tensions'?
- 3) What do you know about the movie 'The Interview'?
- 4) How serious is this incident between the US and N. Korea?
- 5) Was Sony right to cancel screenings of the movie?
- 6) Is it OK to make movies about killing world leaders?
- 7) Would you go to see this movie in the USA?
- 8) How serious a threat is hacking to world security?
- 9) How much power do hackers have over countries?
- 10) What implications does this story have for the movie industry?

Hacked Sony film raises US - N. Korea tensions – 21st December, 2014
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WORLD TENSIONS DISCUSSION

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

- 11) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- 12) How much danger would cinema-goers have been in?
- 13) Do you understand the "storm of protest" in the USA?
- 14) What do you think about President Obama's thoughts on dictators?
- 15) What do you think of censorship?
- 16) How might the attack on Sony be an "act of war"?
- 17) Does free speech mean you can make movies about killing someone?
- 18) Has America lost its first cyber-war?
- 19) How has this cyber-attack changed the world?
- 20) What questions would you like to ask the head of Sony?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

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

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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 <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141221-the-interview.html>

Tensions between the USA and North Korea are (1) ____ following the cyber-attack on the film company Sony Pictures, and the subsequent (2) ____ by Sony to cancel all screenings of its movie 'The Interview'. The cancelled film is a political action comedy about two US journalists who (3) ____ an interview with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un with the intention of assassinating him. A group calling itself The Guardians of Peace has (4) ____ responsibility for the attack. It warned that it would attack 9/11 (5) ____ any cinema that showed the movie. It also threatened Sony that it would put online more confidential data that could damage the company if it did not (6) ____ the movie.

Sony canceled the release of its movie "in the (7) ____ of public safety" after several US cinema chains refused to screen it. This has caused a (8) ____ of protest in America. President Obama said: "We cannot have a society in which some dictators some place can start (9) ____ censorship here." He added: "Imagine what they start doing once they see a documentary that they don't like or news reports that they don't like." Senator John McCain called the cyber-attack "an act of war" and "the greatest (10) ____ to free speech" he had seen in his lifetime. Another politician said: "America has (11) ____ its first cyber-war." Actor Rob Lowe tweeted: "Everyone caved [in]. The hackers won. An (12) ____ and complete victory for them."

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) raised | (b) rises | (c) risen | (d) rising |
| 2. | (a) deriding | (b) derision | (c) decider | (d) decision |
| 3. | (a) harangue | (b) arrange | (c) derange | (d) courage |
| 4. | (a) calmed | (b) clammed | (c) claimed | (d) climbed |
| 5. | (a) mode | (b) type | (c) style | (d) kind |
| 6. | (a) pull | (b) tug | (c) grasp | (d) grip |
| 7. | (a) interest | (b) interests | (c) interesting | (d) interested |
| 8. | (a) storm | (b) downpour | (c) shower | (d) drenching |
| 9. | (a) imposes | (b) imposing | (c) imposed | (d) imposition |
| 10. | (a) pant | (b) puff | (c) blow | (d) gust |
| 11. | (a) vectored | (b) vanquished | (c) lost | (d) drawn |
| 12. | (a) utterance | (b) uttered | (c) utterly | (d) utter |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141221-the-interview.html>

Paragraph 1

1. itnosesn between the USA and North Korea
2. the eeunqusbst decision by Sony
3. cancel all rceisnnsge of its movie
4. two US asjsoritnul
5. with the intention of sniastsasigan him
6. lctiifeodann data

Paragraph 2

7. in the rtsitesne of public safety
8. a storm of sottrpe
9. start imposing hpoicrnsse
10. they see a uecoyntmard
11. rSnoeta John McCain
12. Another tpoincalii said...

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141221-the-interview.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

()	chains refused to screen it. This has caused a storm of protest in America. President Obama said: "We cannot have
()	on the film company Sony Pictures, and the subsequent decision by Sony to cancel all screenings of
()	its movie 'The Interview'. The cancelled film is a political action comedy about two US journalists who arrange an
()	what they start doing once they see a documentary that they don't like or news reports that they don't
(1)	Tensions between the USA and North Korea are rising following the cyber-attack
()	interview with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un with the intention of assassinating him. A group
()	Sony canceled the release of its movie "in the interests of public safety" after several US cinema
()	speech" he had seen in his lifetime. Another politician said: "America has lost its first cyber-war." Actor Rob Lowe
()	calling itself The Guardians of Peace has claimed responsibility for the attack. It warned that it would
()	a society in which some dictators some place can start imposing censorship here." He added: "Imagine
()	tweeted: "Everyone caved [in]. The hackers won. An utter and complete victory for them."
()	online more confidential data that could damage the company if it did not pull the movie.
()	attack 9/11 style any cinema that showed the movie. It also threatened Sony that it would put
()	like." Senator John McCain called the cyber-attack "an act of war" and "the greatest blow to free

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141221-the-interview.html>

1. decision to screenings subsequent Sony all The by cancel.

2. political cancelled action film comedy is a The.

3. Guardians The responsibility claimed has Peace of.

4. confidential more online put would It data.

5. movie Damage the company if it did not pull the.

6. US screen cinema it chains refused Several to.

7. caused of America has storm in This a protest.

8. a they see that like they documentary don't Once.

9. of act An speech free to blow greatest the and war.

10. victory complete and utter An them for.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141221-the-interview.html>

Tensions / Tension between the USA and North Korea are *rising / raising* following the cyber-attack *on / in* the film company Sony Pictures, and the subsequent decision by Sony to cancel all *screens / screenings* of its movie 'The Interview'. The cancelled film is a *political / politically* action comedy about two US journalists who arrange an interview with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un with the *intention / intentional* of assassinating him. A group calling itself The Guardians of Peace has *claimed / claimant* responsibility for the attack. It warned that it would attack 9/11 style *any / all* cinema that showed the movie. It also threatened Sony that it would *get / put* online more confidential data that could damage the company if it did not *pull / tug* the movie.

Sony canceled the release of its movie "*on / in* the interests of public safety" after several US cinema chains *reused / refused* to screen it. This has caused a *storm / typhoon* of protest in America. President Obama said: "We cannot have a society in *where / which* some dictators some place can start imposing censorship here." He added: "Imagine what they start doing *once / twice* they see a documentary that they don't like or news *report / reports* that they don't like." Senator John McCain called the cyber-attack "an *active / act* of war" and "the greatest *blow / suck* to free speech" he had seen in his lifetime. Another politician said: "America has *lost / losing* its first cyber-war." Actor Rob Lowe tweeted: "Everyone caved [in]. The hackers won. An utter and complete *victory / win* for them."

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

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

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141221-the-interview.html>

T_n_s__n_s b_t_w__n th__S__nd N_rth K_r__r_r_s_n_g
f_ll_w_n_g th__c_yb_r-tt_ck_n th__f_lm c_m_p_n_y S_n_y
P_ct_r_s, __nd th__s_b_s_q__nt d_c_s__n by S_n_y t__
c_nc_l__ll scr__n_n_g_s _f__ts m_v__ 'Th__nt_rv__w'.
Th__c_nc_ll_d f_lm__s__p_l_t_c_l__ct__n c_m_dy__b__t
tw__S j__rn_l_s_t_s wh__rr_n_g__n__nt_rv__w w_th
N_rth K_r__n l__d_r K_m J_n_g-_n w_th th__nt_nt__n
_f__ss_ss_n_t_n_g h_m. __gr__p c_ll_n_g__ts_lf Th__
G__rd__ns _f P__c__h_s c_l__m_d r_s_p_n_s_b_l_t_y f_r
th__tt_ck. _t_w_rn_d th__t__t_w__ld__tt_ck 9/11 styl__
_ny c_n_m__th__t sh_w_d th__m_v__. _t__ls__
thr__t_n_d S_n_y th__t__t_w__ld p_t__nl_n__m_r__
c_nf_d_nt__l_d_t__th__t c__ld d_m_g__th__c_m_p_n_y _f
_t_d_d_n_t_p__ll th__m_v__.

S_n_y c_nc_l_d th__r_l__s__ _f__ts m_v__ "n th__
_nt_r_s_t_s _f p_b_l_c_s_f_t_y" _ft_r_s_v_r_l__S c_n_m__
ch__ns r_f_s_d_t__scr__n__t. Th_s h_s c__s_d__st_r_m
_f p_r_t_s_t__n__m_r_c__. Pr_s_d_nt__b_m__s__d: "W__
c_nn_t h_v__s_c__ty__n wh_ch s_m__d_c_t_t_r_s s_m__
p_l_c__c_n s_t_r_t__m_p_s_n_g c_n_s_r_s_h_p_h_r__." H__dd_d:
"_m_g_n__wh__t th_y s_t_r_t_d__ng__nc__th_y s__
d_c_m_nt_ry th__t th_y d_n't l_k__r_n_w_s r_p_r_t_s th__t
th_y d_n't l_k__." S_n_t_r J_h_n M_c_C__n c_ll_d th__
c_yb_r-tt_ck "_n__ct__f_w_r" __nd "th__gr__t_s_t_b_l_w_t__
fr__sp__ch" h__h_d_s__n__n_h_s_l_f_t_m__. _n_th_r
p_l_t_c__n_s__d: "_m_r_c__h_s_l_s_t__ts_f_r_s_t c_yb_r__
w_r." _ct_r R_b_L_w__tw__t_d: "_v_r_y_n__c_v_d[_n].
Th__h_ck_r_s w_n. __n__tt_r__nd c_m_p_l_t__v_c_t_ry f_r
th__m."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141221-the-interview.html>

tensions between the usa and north korea are rising following the cyber-attack on the film company sony pictures and the subsequent decision by sony to cancel all screenings of its movie 'the interview' the cancelled film is a political action comedy about two us journalists who arrange an interview with north korean leader kim jong-un with the intention of assassinating him a group calling itself the guardians of peace has claimed responsibility for the attack it warned that it would attack 9/11 style any cinema that showed the movie it also threatened sony that it would put online more confidential data that could damage the company if it did not pull the movie

sony canceled the release of its movie "in the interests of public safety" after several us cinema chains refused to screen it this has caused a storm of protest in america president obama said "we cannot have a society in which some dictators some place can start imposing censorship here" he added "imagine what they start doing once they see a documentary that they don't like or news reports that they don't like" senator john mccain called the cyber-attack "an act of war" and "the greatest blow to free speech" he had seen in his lifetime another politician said "america has lost its first cyber-war" actor rob lowe tweeted "everyone caved [in] the hackers won an utter and complete victory for them"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141221-the-interview.html>

Tensions between the USA and North Korea are rising following the cyber-attack on the film company Sony Pictures, and the subsequent decision by Sony to cancel all screenings of its movie 'The Interview'. The cancelled film is a political action comedy about two US journalists who arrange an interview with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un with the intention of assassinating him. A group calling itself The Guardians of Peace has claimed responsibility for the attack. It warned that it would attack 9/11 style any cinema that showed the movie. It also threatened Sony that it would put online more confidential data that could damage the company if it did not pull the movie. Sony canceled the release of its movie "in the interests of public safety" after several US cinema chains refused to screen it. This has caused a storm of protest in America. President Obama said: "We cannot have a society in which some dictator somewhere can start imposing censorship here." He added: "Imagine what they start doing once they see a documentary that they don't like or news reports that they don't like." Senator John McCain called the cyber-attack "an act of war" and "the greatest blow to free speech" he had seen in his lifetime. Another politician said: "America has lost its first cyber-war." Actor Rob Lowe tweeted: "Everyone caved [in]. The hackers won. A utter and complete victory for them."

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. THE INTERVIEW: Search the Internet and find out more about the movie 'The Interview'. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. TENSIONS: Make a poster about the tensions between the USA and North Korea. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. THE MOVIE: Write a magazine article about the movie 'The Interview'. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against it being screened.

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 the boss of Sony Pictures. Ask him/her three questions about this incident. Give him/her three of your opinions on how to move forward. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F b F c T d F e T f T g T h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1. tensions | a. strained relations |
| 2. subsequent | b. following |
| 3. intention | c. aim |
| 4. threatened | d. warned |
| 5. confidential | e. top secret |
| 6. protest | f. objection |
| 7. dictators | g. autocrats |
| 8. blow | h. disaster |
| 9. caved in | i. collapsed |
| 10. utter | j. total |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Tensions
2. Screenings (the release) of its movie
3. Two
4. Guardians of Peace
5. Confidential data
6. The public's
7. Imposing censorship
8. A blow to free speech
9. Its first cyber-war
10. Everyone

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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