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New Zealand's election terror scare

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Today's contents

The Article	2
Warm-ups	3
Before Reading / Listening	4
While Reading / Listening	5
After Reading	6
Discussion	7
Speaking	8
Listening Gap Fill	9
Homework	10
Answers	11

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19 September, 2005

THE ARTICLE

New Zealand's election terror scare

BNE: The pilot of a light aircraft gave New Zealand a scare on its election night. He threatened to crash his airplane into Auckland's tallest building. Authorities quickly evacuated the 328-meter-high Sky Tower. Five hundred people hurried down 57 flights of stairs. They watched the plane circle Auckland's harbor. It flew very close to the building several times. After a tense 15 minutes, the pilot crashed the plane into the water 50 meters from the shore. He managed to swim to the beach and was immediately arrested by police.

Police are now interviewing the man, flying instructor David Turnock, aged 33. Sources say Turnock had no political reasons for his actions. They said the fact that the incident happened on election night was a coincidence. Police told reporters the threat was a stunt aimed at getting back together with his wife. Mrs. Turnock had recently left her husband. He flew over the city for several hours and told air traffic controllers he was going to crash into the Sky Tower. It is unlikely police will treat him as a terrorist.

WARM-UPS

1. LOVE: In pairs / groups, talk about love. What is love? What would you do to prove your love to your partner? How much money would you spend on a present to show your love to your partner?

2. SENTENCE STARTERS: In pairs / groups, agree on an ending to the following sentence starters about love. Talk about them. Change partners and compare your sentence endings.

- a. Love is _____.
- b. Being in love is _____.
- c. My partner is _____.
- d. My perfect partner is _____.
- e. To show my love, I _____.
- f. My love is _____.

3. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words are most interesting and which are most boring.

Pilots / light aircraft / New Zealand / tall buildings / terror threats / evacuations / harbors / beaches / stunts / police / marriage break ups

Have a chat about the topics you liked. For more conversation, change topics and partners frequently.

4. OUR STORY: In pairs / groups, look at the words in the "Chat" activity. Use them to make a story about the headline. Change partners and tell each other your stories.

5. NEW ZEALAND: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with New Zealand. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. THE ENDS OF THE EARTH: Which of the actions below would you take to prove your love to your partner? Talk about them in pairs / groups.

- a. Steal a light aircraft and threaten to crash it into a tall building.
- b. Follow him / her to the ends of the earth.
- c. Sell everything you own.
- d. Give up your job to be with him / her.
- e. Buy him / her flowers every day of your lives together.
- f. Scream "I love you" in front of all of your family and friends.
- g. Put his / her dreams in front of your own.
- h. Promise to do everything he / she says without question, forever.
- i. Other.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

1. TRUE / FALSE: Look at the article's headline and guess whether these sentences are true (T) or false (F):

- a. A suicide bomber threatened to attack a New Zealand election office. T / F
- b. Auckland's tallest building was evacuated. T / F
- c. A light aircraft flew around the tall building for 15 minutes. T / F
- d. The pilot crashed the plane and escaped from police on the beach. T / F
- e. The pilot has said he was unhappy with New Zealand politics. T / F
- f. Mr. Turnock chose that night because it was election night. T / F
- g. Mr. Turnock's wife left him and he wanted to show he loved her. T / F
- h. He faces charges of terrorism. T / F

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

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| a. light | instantly |
| b. scare | motives |
| c. hurried | regard |
| d. tense | questioning |
| e. immediately | small |
| f. interviewing | split up with |
| g. reasons | rushed |
| h. getting back together | anxious |
| i. left | fright |
| j. treat | reuniting |

3. PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases from the article (sometimes more than one combination is possible):

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| a. light | 57 flights of stairs |
| b. Authorities quickly evacuated | controllers |
| c. people hurried down | by police |
| d. crashed the plane into the water | back together with his wife |
| e. immediately arrested | 50 meters from the shore |
| f. Police are now | reasons for his actions |
| g. Turnock had no political | aircraft |
| h. a stunt aimed at getting | him as a terrorist |
| i. air traffic | the 328-meter-high Sky Tower |
| j. It is unlikely police will treat | interviewing the man |

WHILE READING / LISTENING

WORD ORDER: Put the underlined words back into the correct order.

New Zealand's election terror scare

BNE: The light aircraft pilot of a gave New Zealand a scare on its election night. He threatened to crash his airplane into Auckland's tallest building. Authorities quickly evacuated the 328-meter-high Sky Tower. Five hundred people flights down hurried 57 of stairs. They watched the plane circle Auckland's harbor. It close very flew to the building several times. After minutes a tense 15, the pilot crashed the plane into the water 50 meters from the shore. to swim He managed to the beach and was immediately arrested by police.

Police interviewing the man are now, flying instructor David Turnock, aged 33. Sources say Turnock reasons had political no for his actions. They said the fact that the incident happened on election coincidence was a night. Police told reporters the threat was a stunt aimed at back getting with together his wife. Mrs. Turnock had recently left her husband. He flew over the city for several hours and told air traffic controllers he was going to crash into the Sky Tower. It is unlikely him as treat will police a terrorist.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionaries / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'close' and 'range'.

- 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. WORD ORDER: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity.

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. STUDENT "CRAZY LOVE" SURVEY: In pairs / groups, write down questions about love and the crazy things people do for it.

- Ask other classmates your questions and note down their answers.
- Go back to your original partner / group and compare your findings.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

6. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall exactly how these were used in the text:

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| • light | • now |
| • threatened | • reasons |
| • quickly | • coincidence |
| • circle | • stunt |
| • several | • controllers |
| • immediately | • unlikely |

DISCUSSION

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

- a. What did you think when you first read this headline?
- b. Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- c. What do you think of Mr. Turnock's actions?
- d. How much do you think he loves his wife?
- e. Do you think he should be charged by police as a terrorist?
- f. What kind of punishment do you think he should receive?
- g. What would you be thinking now if you were Mrs. Turnock?
- h. Is Mr. Turnock a hero?
- i. What would you think of Mr. Turnock if you were one of the people evacuated from the Sky Tower?
- j. Do you think the owners of the Sky Tower should sue Mr. Turnock?

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

- a. Did you like reading this article?
- b. What do you think about what you read?
- c. Mr. Turnock flew around Auckland for several hours and was not stopped by the air force. Could this happen in your country?
- d. Do you think the expression "all's fair in love and war" fits this story?
- e. Do you think Mrs. Turnock should reunite with her husband?
- f. What question would you like to ask Mr. Turnock?
- g. What do you think his answer would be?
- h. What's the craziest thing you've done for love?
- i. Have you ever wanted to reunite with your ex-partners?
- j. Did you like this discussion?

AFTER DISCUSSION: Join another partner / group and tell them what you talked about.

- a. What question would you like to ask about this topic?
- b. What was the most interesting thing you heard?
- c. Was there a question you didn't like?
- d. Was there something you totally disagreed with?
- e. What did you like talking about?
- f. Do you want to know how anyone else answered the questions?
- g. Which was the most difficult question?

SPEAKING

THE MOVIE: In pairs / groups, make the movie story for New Zealand's election terror scare. Use the hints in the table as a guide. You may add more.

HINTS	STORY
Opening scene	
How the Turnocks met	
How the Turnocks broke up	
David's phone call to his wife before he stole the plane	
His wife's response	
In the plane as David flies around the Sky Tower	
Mystery scene	
His wife watching on TV at home	
Ending scene	

Change partners and share your stories. Tell each other how you can make the stories more dramatic.

Return to your original partners and report on the feedback you got. Decide on changes to your story to make the final version. Would it be a great movie? Choose the actors.

LISTENING

Listen and fill in the spaces.

New Zealand's election terror scare

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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 more information about the story in the article. Share your findings with your class in the next lesson.

3. EVACUATED: You were evacuated from Auckland's Sky Tower because of David Turnock's terror threat. Write down your feelings during and after the "attack". Read what you wrote to your classmates in your next lesson. Did you all have similar feelings?

4. DIARY / JOURNAL: You are David Turnock. Write your diary / journal entry for the day of your "attack" on Auckland's Sky Tower. Read your diary / journal to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all write about similar things?

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE:

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

SYNONYM MATCH:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| a. light | small |
| b. scare | fright |
| c. hurried | rushed |
| d. tense | anxious |
| e. immediately | instantly |
| f. interviewing | questioning |
| g. reasons | motives |
| h. getting back together | reuniting |
| i. left | split up with |
| j. treat | regard |

PHRASE MATCH:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| a. light | aircraft |
| b. Authorities quickly evacuated | the 328-meter-high Sky Tower |
| c. people hurried down | 57 flights of stairs |
| d. crashed the plane into the water | 50 meters from the shore |
| e. immediately arrested | by police |
| f. Police are now | interviewing the man |
| g. Turnock had no political | reasons for his actions |
| h. a stunt aimed at getting | back together with his wife |
| i. air traffic | controllers |
| j. It is unlikely police will treat | him as a terrorist |

WORD ORDER:

New Zealand's election terror scare

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