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## **U.S. to reduce use of drones**

**26th May, 2013**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1305/130526-drones.html>

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# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130526-drones.html>

U.S. President Barack Obama has outlined a new policy in the controversial use of drones to kill suspected terrorists. Drones are unmanned aircraft that can be controlled from the U.S. as well as from bases in or near war zones. Both the U.S. military and the CIA use drones in their operations. Around 800 drone strikes have taken place in Afghanistan in the past two years. The CIA's use of drones is shrouded in secrecy. Experts believe the agency has conducted around 350 drone strikes in Pakistan and fewer than 100 in Yemen and Somalia since 2004. Around 3,000 people have been killed by drones since 2004. The New America Foundation estimates that roughly 21 per cent of those killed were civilians.

President Obama said the U.S. would now only use drone strikes as a last resort, when there is a "continuing and imminent" threat to the American people, and that there must be "near certainty that no civilians will be killed or injured". Kenneth Roth from Human Rights Watch said: "A mere promise that the US will work within established guidelines that remain secret provides little confidence that [it] is complying with international law." Shahzad Akbar, a Pakistani lawyer working for drone victims' families, said: "The problem remains the same because there is no transparency and accountability for the CIA because it will remain inside the system and not be visible to outsiders."

Sources: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-fg-pakistan-drones-20130525,0,5041819.story>  
[http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/obama-lays-proposals-drones-guantanamo-bay/story?id=19243198#.UZ\\_IPOu2b80](http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/obama-lays-proposals-drones-guantanamo-bay/story?id=19243198#.UZ_IPOu2b80)  
[http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/obamas-new-drone-guidelines-still-leave-critics-with-unanswered-questions/2013/05/24/1c96f150-c4ad-11e2-9642-a56177f1cdf7\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/obamas-new-drone-guidelines-still-leave-critics-with-unanswered-questions/2013/05/24/1c96f150-c4ad-11e2-9642-a56177f1cdf7_story.html)

U.S. to reduce use of drones – 26th May, 2013

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# 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, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

*new policy / controversial / war zones / military / secrecy / experts / CIA / civilians / last resort / imminent threat / human rights / guidelines / international law / system*

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

**3. UNMANNED / UNWOMANNED:** Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Good?	Advantages / Disadvantages
Drone		
Tank		
Passenger plane		
Operating theatre		
Classroom		
Store		

**4. ROBOTS:** Students A **strongly** believe all future wars will be fought with robots and drones; Students B **strongly** believe humans will always fight wars. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

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

- kitchen
- bathroom
- garden
- toilet
- laundry room
- garage
- living room
- study

**6. MILITARY:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'military'. 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/1305/130526-drones.html>

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

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| a. A U.S. general summarized the new policy regarding drones.                | T / F |
| b. Drones can only be controlled from near the battle zone.                  | T / F |
| c. Drones have been used around 800 times in 2 years in Afghanistan.         | T / F |
| d. An organization said just over 20% of drone fatalities were civilian.     | T / F |
| e. Drones were used to bomb the last resort left in Afghanistan.             | T / F |
| f. From now, drones will only be used if it's certain no civilians will die. | T / F |
| g. Human Rights Watch has little confidence in the new guidelines.           | T / F |
| h. A lawyer said it was a problem that the CIA's drones use is secretive.    | T / F |

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

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. outlined       | a. openness        |
| 2. controversial  | b. ordinary people |
| 3. shrouded       | c. carried out     |
| 4. conducted      | d. final option    |
| 5. civilians      | e. on the way      |
| 6. last resort    | f. summarised      |
| 7. imminent       | g. following       |
| 8. established    | h. hidden          |
| 9. complying with | i. disputed        |
| 10. transparency  | j. accepted        |

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

- |                      |                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. the controversial | a. aircraft               |
| 2. suspected         | b. 21 per cent of those   |
| 3. unmanned          | c. international law      |
| 4. shrouded          | d. terrorists             |
| 5. roughly           | e. threat                 |
| 6. as a last         | f. established guidelines |
| 7. imminent          | g. use of drones          |
| 8. work within       | h. and accountability     |
| 9. complying with    | i. in secrecy             |
| 10. no transparency  | j. resort                 |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130526-drones.html>

U.S. President Barack Obama has (1) \_\_\_\_\_ a new policy in the controversial use of drones to kill (2) \_\_\_\_\_ terrorists. Drones are unmanned aircraft that can be controlled from the U.S. as well as from bases in or near war (3) \_\_\_\_\_. Both the U.S. military and the CIA use drones in their (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Around 800 drone strikes have taken place in Afghanistan in the past two years. The CIA's use of drones is shrouded in (5) \_\_\_\_\_. Experts believe the agency has (6) \_\_\_\_\_ around 350 drone strikes in Pakistan and (7) \_\_\_\_\_ than 100 in Yemen and Somalia since 2004. Around 3,000 people have been killed by drones since 2004. The New America Foundation estimates that (8) \_\_\_\_\_ 21 per cent of those killed were civilians.

*secrecy*  
*fewer*  
*suspected*  
*operations*  
*outlined*  
*roughly*  
*conducted*  
*zones*

President Obama said the U.S. would now only use drone strikes as a last (9) \_\_\_\_\_, when there is a "continuing and (10) \_\_\_\_\_" threat to the American people, and that there must be "near (11) \_\_\_\_\_ that no civilians will be killed or injured". Kenneth Roth from Human Rights Watch said: "A (12) \_\_\_\_\_ promise that the US will work within established guidelines that remain secret provides little (13) \_\_\_\_\_ that [it] is (14) \_\_\_\_\_ with international law." Shahzad Akbar, a Pakistani lawyer working for drone victims' families, said: "The problem remains the same because there is no (15) \_\_\_\_\_ and accountability for the CIA because it will remain (16) \_\_\_\_\_ the system and not be visible to outsiders."

*transparency*  
*imminent*  
*confidence*  
*inside*  
*resort*  
*mere*  
*complying*  
*certainty*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130526-drones.html>

- 1) a new policy in the controversial use of drones to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. kill suspecting terrorists
  - b. kill unsuspected terrorists
  - c. kill suspicious terrorists
  - d. kill suspected terrorists
- 2) controlled from the U.S. as well as from bases in \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. or nearly war zones
  - b. or near war zones
  - c. or nearby war zones
  - d. or nearer war zones
- 3) Both the U.S. military and the CIA use drones \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. in there operations
  - b. in they're operations
  - c. in their operations
  - d. in these operations
- 4) The CIA's use of drones is \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. shrouded on secrecy
  - b. shrouded in secrecy
  - c. shrouded by secrecy
  - d. shrouded with secrecy
- 5) The New America Foundation estimates that roughly 21 per cent of those \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. killed were civilian
  - b. killed were civil yams
  - c. killed weren't civilians
  - d. killed were civilians
- 6) Obama said the U.S. would now only use drone strikes as a last resort
  - a. as a last resort
  - b. as a lost resort
  - c. as a least resort
  - d. as a list resort
- 7) when there is a " \_\_\_\_\_ " threat to the American people
  - a. continue in and imminent
  - b. continued and imminent
  - c. continuing and imminent
  - d. continual and imminent
- 8) the US will work within established guidelines \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. that remains secret
  - b. that remainder secret
  - c. that remaining secret
  - d. that remain secret
- 9) provides little confidence that [it] is \_\_\_\_\_ law
  - a. complying with international
  - b. comply in with international
  - c. compliant with international
  - d. complies with international
- 10) The problem remains the same because \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. there is no transparent sea
  - b. there is no transparencies
  - c. there is no transparencies
  - d. there is no transparency

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130526-drones.html>

U.S. President Barack Obama (1) \_\_\_\_\_ in the controversial use of drones to kill suspected terrorists. Drones are unmanned aircraft that can be controlled from the U.S. (2) \_\_\_\_\_ in or near war zones. Both the U.S. military and the CIA use drones in their operations. Around 800 drone (3) \_\_\_\_\_ place in Afghanistan in the past two years. The CIA's use of drones (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Experts believe (5) \_\_\_\_\_ around 350 drone strikes in Pakistan and fewer than 100 in Yemen and Somalia since 2004. Around 3,000 people have been killed by drones since 2004. The New America Foundation estimates that roughly 21 per cent of (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

President Obama said the U.S. (7) \_\_\_\_\_ drone strikes as a last resort, when there is a "continuing and imminent" threat to the American people, and that there must be "(8) \_\_\_\_\_ civilians will be killed or injured". Kenneth Roth from Human Rights Watch said: "A (9) \_\_\_\_\_ US will work within established guidelines that remain secret provides little confidence (10) \_\_\_\_\_ with international law." Shahzad Akbar, a Pakistani lawyer working for drone victims' families, said: "The problem (11) \_\_\_\_\_ because there is no transparency and accountability for the CIA because it will remain inside the system and not (12) \_\_\_\_\_."

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130526-drones.html>

1. What is controversial?

---

2. Which country has seen 800 drone strikes?

---

3. What is the CIA use of drones cloaked in?

---

4. How many people have drone strikes killed since 2004?

---

5. What percentage of drone-strike fatalities might be civilian?

---

6. When will the U.S. use drones from now?

---

7. What must be almost certain before a drone is used?

---

8. Which organization talked about a "mere promise"?

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9. Who does Shahzad Akbar represent?

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10. Why did Shahzad Akbar say there is still a problem?

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# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130526-drones.html>

1. What is controversial?
  - a) suspected terrorists
  - b) the use of drones
  - c) drones built in Afghanistan
  - d) outlined policies
2. Which country has seen 800 drone strikes?
  - a) Yemen
  - b) Somalia
  - c) Pakistan
  - d) Afghanistan
3. What is the CIA use of drones cloaked in?
  - a) secrecy
  - b) cloth
  - c) rumours
  - d) red
4. How many people have drone strikes killed since 2004?
  - a) about 2,000
  - b) roughly 2,500
  - c) Around 3,000
  - d) 3,500, give or take a few dozen
5. What percentage of drone-strike fatalities might be civilian?
  - a) slightly over half
  - b) about 21%
  - c) almost none
  - d) no one knows for sure
6. When will the U.S. use drones from now?
  - a) as a last resort
  - b) every day
  - c) after every suicide bomb
  - d) when Pakistan asks
7. What must be almost certain before a drone is used?
  - a) that the missiles work
  - b) that Pakistan's leaders agree
  - c) that no civilians die or get injured
  - d) that no pilot is needed to fly it
8. Which organization talked about a "mere promise"?
  - a) Human Rights Watch
  - b) the CIA
  - c) the FBI
  - d) Pakistan's secret service
9. Who does Shahzad Akbar represent?
  - a) drone victims' families
  - b) the Pakistan government
  - c) the CIA
  - d) himself
10. Why did Shahzad Akbar say there is still a problem?
  - a) Pakistan strongly opposes the use of drones
  - b) drones are still being used
  - c) drones do not work
  - d) there is no transparency and accountability for the CIA

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130526-drones.html>

## **Role A – President Obama**

You think drones are a necessary part of the war on terror. Tell the others three reasons why. You think accidental civilian deaths are tragic but cannot stop the use of drones. The CIA's use of drones must stay secret – you cannot tell the others why.

## **Role B – Pacifist**

You are shocked that the USA is using drones. Tell the others three reasons why. You think any loss of civilian life is totally unacceptable. It is the same as murder. The CIA's secrecy means Obama's new "openness" is a big lie. Tell everyone the world needs to know when the CIA uses drones.

## **Role C – CIA boss**

You think drones are one of the greatest military resources ever. Tell the others three reasons why. Drones greatly reduce the loss of life as no pilot is needed. You cannot say anything about operations because it could endanger the success of the battle with terrorists.

## **Role D – Pakistani villager**

You hate the drones that fly over your village. Tell the others three reasons why. President Obama and the CIA boss have no idea about the terror drones bring to normal people. You are furious that drones have killed people close to you who were ordinary people with families. Ask for drone strikes to stop.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130526-drones.html>

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

<b>war</b>	<b>zone</b>
------------	-------------

- 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"><li>• new</li><li>• bases</li><li>• past</li><li>• secrecy</li><li>• fewer</li><li>• 21</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• last</li><li>• threat</li><li>• near</li><li>• promise</li><li>• lawyer</li><li>• system</li></ul>
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# DRONES SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130526-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)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'drone'?
- c) Why do you think the unmanned aircraft are called "drones"?
- d) What do you think of the use of drones?
- e) Is it better to use drones or warplanes with pilots?
- f) Should the families of civilians killed by drones get compensation?
- g) Do you think all wars will be fought using drones and robots one day?
- h) What happens when all countries have drones?
- i) Would you use a passenger jet that was pilotless?
- j) What do you think of 21% of fatalities being civilian?

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# DRONES DISCUSSION

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

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) Is President Obama's message clear about drones as a last resort?
- c) What options need to be exhausted before the last resort is reached?
- d) How unacceptable is "near certainty" of no civilian casualties?
- e) What part does international law play in the fighting of a war?
- f) How much confidence do you have in the USA's use of drones?
- g) Would transparency put soldiers' lives at risk?
- h) What is the alternative to drones?
- i) Where will we be with this story in ten years from now?
- j) What questions would you like to ask President Obama?

## **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. \_\_\_\_\_

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - LANGUAGE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130526-drones.html>

U.S. President Barack Obama has (1) \_\_\_\_\_ a new policy in the controversial use of drones to kill suspected terrorists. Drones are unmanned aircraft that can be controlled from the U.S. as well as from (2) \_\_\_\_\_ in or near war zones. Both the U.S. military and the CIA use drones in their (3) \_\_\_\_\_. Around 800 drone strikes have taken place in Afghanistan in the past two years. The CIA's use of drones is shrouded (4) \_\_\_\_\_ secrecy. Experts believe the agency has (5) \_\_\_\_\_ around 350 drone strikes in Pakistan and fewer than 100 in Yemen and Somalia since 2004. Around 3,000 people have been killed by drones since 2004. The New America Foundation estimates that (6) \_\_\_\_\_ 21 per cent of those killed were civilians.

President Obama said the U.S. would now only use drone strikes as a last (7) \_\_\_\_\_, when there is a "continuing and (8) \_\_\_\_\_" threat to the American people, and that there must be "near certainty that no civilians will be killed or injured". Kenneth Roth from Human Rights Watch said: "A (9) \_\_\_\_\_ promise that the US will work within established guidelines that remain secret provides (10) \_\_\_\_\_ confidence that [it] is complying with international law." Shahzad Akbar, a Pakistani lawyer working for drone victims' families, said: "The problem (11) \_\_\_\_\_ the same because there is no transparency and accountability for the CIA because it will remain inside the system and not be (12) \_\_\_\_\_ to outsiders."

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

- |     |                  |               |                  |                 |
|-----|------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1.  | (a) measured     | (b) outlined  | (c) ruled        | (d) sharpened   |
| 2.  | (a) barns        | (b) bases     | (c) bays         | (d) basis       |
| 3.  | (a) performances | (b) surgeries | (c) conduct      | (d) operations  |
| 4.  | (a) of           | (b) in        | (c) on           | (d) at          |
| 5.  | (a) retracted    | (b) inspected | (c) redacted     | (d) conducted   |
| 6.  | (a) rough        | (b) roughness | (c) roughly      | (d) roughed up  |
| 7.  | (a) resort       | (b) hotel     | (c) spa          | (d) hostel      |
| 8.  | (a) cement       | (b) prostrate | (c) imminent     | (d) pressure    |
| 9.  | (a) here         | (b) fear      | (c) tear         | (d) mere        |
| 10. | (a) little       | (b) few       | (c) small        | (d) tiny        |
| 11. | (a) remains      | (b) remaining | (c) remainder    | (d) remain      |
| 12. | (a) visible      | (b) invisible | (c) invisibility | (d) indivisible |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130526-drones.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. the elctvaoinrsor use of drones
2. pusctedse terrorists
3. the U.S. liytmira
4. shrouded in escecry
5. uhlorgy 21 per cent
6. those killed were nalciisvi

## Paragraph 2

7. emintimn threat
8. there must be near raceiyttn
9. hlsiadebset guidelines
10. lympgicno with international law
11. there is no ycntraprnsae
12. vilesib to outsiders



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130526-drones.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) resort, when there is a "continuing and imminent" threat to the American people, and that there must be "near
- ( ) President Obama said the U.S. would now only use drone strikes as a last
- ( ) secrecy. Experts believe the agency has conducted around 350 drone strikes in Pakistan and fewer than 100 in
- ( ) complying with international law." Shahzad Akbar, a Pakistani lawyer working for drone
- ( ) bases in or near war zones. Both the U.S. military and the CIA use drones in their operations. Around 800 drone
- ( ) victims' families, said: "The problem remains the same because there is no transparency and
- ( ) strikes have taken place in Afghanistan in the past two years. The CIA's use of drones is shrouded in
- ( ) certainty that no civilians will be killed or injured". Kenneth Roth from Human Rights Watch said: "A mere
- ( **1** ) Yemen and Somalia since 2004. Around 3,000 people have been killed by drones
- ( ) promise that the US will work within established guidelines that remain secret provides little confidence that [it] is
- ( ) since 2004. The New America Foundation estimates that roughly 21 per cent of those killed were civilians.
- ( ) terrorists. Drones are unmanned aircraft that can be controlled from the U.S. as well as from
- ( ) accountability for the CIA because it will remain inside the system and not be visible to outsiders."
- ( ) U.S. President Barack Obama has outlined a new policy in the controversial use of drones to kill suspected

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130526-drones.html>

1. use suspected of terrorists drones to Controversial kill.

---

2. U.S. the from controlled be can that aircraft Unmanned.

---

3. use . in shrouded secrecy drones of is CIA's The

---

4. 3,000 people have been killed by drones Around.

---

5. 21 of were Roughly cent killed per those civilians.

---

6. use The drone US strikes as a last would resort only.

---

7. no civilians will be killed or injured Near certainty that.

---

8. confidence little provide secret remain that Guidelines.

---

9. There transparency for no accountability CIA is and the.

---

10. be visible It will remain inside the system and not.

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130526-drones.html>

U.S. President Barack Obama has *outlined / lined* a new policy in the controversial *used / use* of drones to kill suspected terrorists. Drones are unmanned aircraft that can be *controlled / controlling* from the U.S. as well as from *basis / bases* in or near war zones. Both the U.S. military and the CIA use drones in their *operatives / operations*. Around 800 drone strikes have *taken / given* place in Afghanistan in the past two years. The CIA's use of drones is *shrouded / shredded* in secrecy. Experts believe the agency has *conducted / conductive* around 350 drone strikes in Pakistan and fewer than 100 in Yemen and Somalia *since / for* 2004. Around 3,000 people have been killed by drones since 2004. The New America Foundation estimates that roughly 21 per cent of those killed were *civil / civilians*.

President Obama said the U.S. would *now / not* only use drone strikes as a *least / last* resort, when there is a "continuing and *impotent / imminent*" threat to the American people, and that there must be "near *certainly / certainty* that no civilians will be killed or *injury / injured*". Kenneth Roth from Human Rights Watch said: "A *mere / here* promise that the US will work *within / wither* established guidelines that remain secret provides little confidence that [it] is *complying / complaint* with international law." Shahzad Akbar, a Pakistani lawyer working for drone victims' families, said: "The problem *remains / remaining* the same because there is no transparency and accountability for the CIA because it will remain inside the system and not be *invisible / visible* to outsiders."

**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/1305/130526-drones.html>

U.S. President Barack Obama has said the new policy on the civilian use of drones to kill suspected terrorists. Drones are unmanned aircraft that can be controlled from the U.S. as well as from bases in other countries. Both the U.S. military and the CIA use drones in their operations. Around 800 drone strikes have taken place in Afghanistan in the past two years. The CIA's use of drones is shrouded in secrecy. Experts believe the agency has conducted around 350 drone strikes in Pakistan and Afghanistan 100 in Yemen and Somalia since 2004. Around 3,000 people have been killed by drone strikes since 2004. The New York Times found that roughly 21 percent of the killed were civilians.

President Obama said the U.S. would now only use drone strikes as a last resort, when there is "counting and monitoring" through the mercenary companies, and that there must be "no certainty that the civilians will be killed or injured". Kenneth Roth from Human Rights Watch said: "The promise that the U.S. will work with the established guidelines that remain secret provides little confidence that [it] is complying with international law." Shazia Kibar, Pakistan lawyer working for drone victims' families, said: "The problem remains that the same basic principles that will remain the system and not be visible to the citizens."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130526-drones.html>

us president barack obama has outlined a new policy in the controversial use of drones to kill suspected terrorists drones are unmanned aircraft that can be controlled from the us as well as from bases in or near war zones both the us military and the cia use drones in their operations around 800 drone strikes have taken place in afghanistan in the past two years the cia's use of drones is shrouded in secrecy experts believe the agency has conducted around 350 drone strikes in pakistan and fewer than 100 in yemen and somalia since 2004 around 3000 people have been killed by drones since 2004 the new america foundation estimates that roughly 21 per cent of those killed were civilians

president obama said the us would now only use drone strikes as a last resort when there is a "continuing and imminent" threat to the american people and that there must be "near certainty that no civilians will be killed or injured" kenneth roth from human rights watch said "a mere promise that the us will work within established guidelines that remain secret provides little confidence that [it] is complying with international law" shahzad akbar a pakistani lawyer working for drone victims' families said "the problem remains the same because there is no transparency and accountability for the cia because it will remain inside the system and not be visible to outsiders"

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130526-drones.html>

U.S. President Barack Obama has outlined a new policy in the controversial use of drones to kill suspected terrorists. Drones are unmanned aircraft that can be controlled from the U.S. as well as from bases in or near war zones. Both the U.S. military and the CIA used drones in their operations. Around 800 drone strikes have taken place in Afghanistan in the past two years. The CIA's use of drones is shrouded in secrecy. Experts believe the agency has conducted around 350 drone strikes in Pakistan and fewer than 100 in Yemen and Somalia since 2004. Around 3,000 people have been killed by drones since 2004. The New America Foundation estimates that roughly 21 percent of those killed were civilians. President Obama said the U.S. would not only use drone strikes as a last resort, when there is a "continuing and imminent" threat to the American people, and that there must be "near certainty that no civilians will be killed or injured". Kenneth Roth from Human Rights Watch said: "America promises that the US will work within established guidelines that remain secret to provide a little confidence that [it] is complying with international law." Shahzad Akbar, a Pakistani lawyer working for drone victims' families, said: "The problem remains the same because there is no transparency and accountability for the CIA because it will remain inside the system and not be visible to outsiders."







# 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 drones. 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 STRIKES:** Write a magazine article about drone strikes. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against them.

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 a military expert. Ask him/her three questions about drones. Give him/her three of your opinions on them. 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 T    e F    f F    g T    h T

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. outlined       | a. summarised      |
| 2. controversial  | b. disputed        |
| 3. shrouded       | c. hidden          |
| 4. conducted      | d. carried out     |
| 5. civilians      | e. ordinary people |
| 6. last resort    | f. final option    |
| 7. imminent       | g. on the way      |
| 8. established    | h. accepted        |
| 9. complying with | i. following       |
| 10. transparency  | j. openness        |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. The use of drones to kill suspected terrorists
2. Afghanistan
3. Secrecy
4. Around 3,000
5. About 21%
6. As a last resort
7. That no civilians will be killed or injured
8. Human Rights Watch
9. Drone victims' families
10. There is no transparency and accountability for the CIA

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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