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Level 5

Men rescued after writing 'HELP' in the sand

13th April, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1604/160413-rescue-5.html>

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Please try Level 4 (easier) and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1604/160413-rescue-5.html>

Three men were rescued from a remote desert island on Thursday. They became marooned on the uninhabited South Pacific island of Fanadik, several hundred kilometres north of Papua New Guinea. Their boat capsized at night, but the men managed to swim for nearly three kilometres to reach land. They stayed on the island for three days and believed they were modern-day castaways. They wrote the word 'HELP' in the sand with palm leaves so that a plane might spot them. Their prayers were answered when a U.S. Coast Guard plane saw their message on the beach.

The Coast Guard spoke about the rescue, saying: "Our combined efforts, coupled with the willingness of many different resources to come together and help, led to the successful rescue of these three men in a very remote part of the Pacific." The men were put on a boat back to the island of Pulap, from where they had first set out to sea. None of the men was injured. The rescue is one of many done by the U.S. Coast Guard recently. They have worked on seven search-and-rescue missions in the South Pacific, saving the lives of 15 people.

Sources: <http://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2016/apr/09/men-rescued-help-palm-leaves-island-pacific>
<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2016/04/08/three-castaways-rescued-remote-island-pacific-ship-wreck-help/82783676/>
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2016/04/09/three-men-rescued-from-remote-island-after-writing-help-on-the-sand/>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1604/160413-rescue-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. a remote desert | a. day castaways |
| 2. marooned on the uninhabited | b. nearly three kilometres |
| 3. Their boat | c. were answered |
| 4. the men managed to swim for | d. South Pacific island |
| 5. believed they were modern- | e. on the beach |
| 6. palm | f. capsized |
| 7. Their prayers | g. island |
| 8. their message | h. leaves |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Our combined | a. by the US Coast Guard |
| 2. the willingness of many | b. rescue |
| 3. led to the successful | c. efforts |
| 4. a very remote | d. lives of 15 people |
| 5. hey had first set | e. different resources |
| 6. The rescue is one of many done | f. missions |
| 7. search-and-rescue | g. part of the Pacific |
| 8. saving the | h. out to sea |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1604/160413-rescue-5.html>

Three men were rescued (1) _____ desert island on Thursday. They became (2) _____ uninhabited South Pacific island of Fanadik, several hundred kilometres north of Papua New Guinea. Their boat (3) _____, but the men managed to swim for nearly three kilometres (4) _____. They stayed on the island for three days and believed they were modern-day castaways. They wrote the word 'HELP' (5) _____ palm leaves so that a plane might spot them. Their prayers were answered when a U.S. Coast Guard plane (6) _____ on the beach.

The Coast Guard (7) _____ rescue, saying: "Our combined efforts, coupled with (8) _____ many different resources to come together and help, led to the successful (9) _____ three men in a very remote part of the Pacific." The men were put on a boat back to the island of Pulpap, from where they (10) _____ to sea. None of the men was injured. The rescue (11) _____ done by the U.S. Coast Guard recently. They have worked on seven search-and-(12) _____ the South Pacific, saving the lives of 15 people.

DESERT ISLANDS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1604/160413-rescue-5.html>

Write five GOOD questions about desert islands 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)

g)

h)

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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)

g)

h)

FREE WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1604/160413-rescue-5.html>

Write about **desert islands** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.
