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Tensions high between North and South Korea

MANY FLASH AND ONLINE ACTIVITIES FOR THIS LESSON, PLUS A LISTENING, AT:

http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1011/101124-north_south_korea.html

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24th November, 2010

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1011/101124-north_south_korea.html

Relations between North and South Korea became their most tense for fifty years after North Korea's attack on a South Korean island. The military strike happened on Monday. The North fired dozens of rockets at Yeonpyeong Island, killing four people and wounding 18 others. The South immediately threatened to fight back if there were more military strikes. The North blamed the South for starting the crisis; the South said it fired test missiles in the area but that none fell in the North's territory. South Korea's stock markets crashed at the news.

Yeonpyeong Island, populated by 200 military and civilian personnel, is about 30 km off the coast of North Korea. It is over 100 km from the South Korean mainland. Both countries claim it as their own. It is on the North Korean side of the Military Demarcation Line which divided the two Koreas after fighting in the Korean War ended in 1953. However, the island is south of the Northern Limit Line, which South Korea says is its territory. The two countries never signed a peace deal and are still officially at war. Chinese officials have called for calm.

PHRASE MATCH

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1011/101124-north_south_korea.html

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Relations between | a. wounding 18 others |
| 2. their most tense | b. crashed at the news |
| 3. killing four people and | c. for fifty years |
| 4. immediately threatened to | d. North and South Korea |
| 5. The North blamed | e. fight back |
| 6. South Korea's stock markets | f. the South |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. populated by 200 military and | a. mainland |
| 2. 100 km from the South Korean | b. as their own |
| 3. Both countries claim it | c. called for calm |
| 4. after fighting in the Korean War | d. civilian personnel |
| 5. signed a peace | e. ended |
| 6. Chinese officials have | f. deal |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1011/101124-north_south_korea.html

Relations between North and South Korea _____ tense for fifty years after North Korea's attack on a South Korean island. The military _____ Monday. The North fired dozens of rockets at Yeonpyeong Island, killing four people _____ others. The South immediately threatened to fight back if there were _____. The North blamed the South for starting the crisis; the South said it fired test missiles in the area but _____ North's territory. South Korea's stock markets _____.

Yeonpyeong Island, _____ military and civilian personnel, is about 30 km _____ North Korea. It is over 100 km from the South Korean mainland. Both countries _____. It is on the North Korean side of the Military Demarcation Line _____ two Koreas after fighting in the Korean War ended in 1953. However, the island is south of the Northern Limit Line, which South Korea says is its territory. The two countries never _____ and are still officially at war. Chinese officials _____.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1011/101124-north_south_korea.html

Relations between North and South Korea became their (1) _____ tense for fifty years after North Korea's attack on a South Korean island. The military (2) _____ happened on Monday. The North (3) _____ dozens of rockets at Yeonpyeong Island, killing four people and wounding 18 others. The South immediately threatened to fight (4) _____ if there were more military strikes. The North blamed the South (5) _____ starting the crisis; the South said it fired test missiles in the area but that none fell in the North's territory. South Korea's stock markets crashed (6) _____ the news.

Yeonpyeong Island, populated (7) _____ 200 military and civilian personnel, is about 30 km off the coast of North Korea. It is over 100 km from the South Korean (8) _____. Both countries claim it as their own. It is on the North Korean side of the Military Demarcation Line which divided the two Koreas after (9) _____ in the Korean War ended in 1953. However, the island is south (10) _____ the Northern Limit Line, which South Korea says is its territory. The two countries never (11) _____ a peace deal and are still officially at war. Chinese officials have called for (12) _____.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) many | (b) more | (c) most |
| 2. | (a) strike | (b) stick | (c) stroke |
| 3. | (a) barbequed | (b) roasted | (c) fired |
| 4. | (a) back | (b) after | (c) front |
| 5. | (a) from | (b) for | (c) if |
| 6. | (a) to | (b) in | (c) at |
| 7. | (a) by | (b) so | (c) as |
| 8. | (a) mainly | (b) mainland | (c) main |
| 9. | (a) fights | (b) fought | (c) fighting |
| 10. | (a) for | (b) of | (c) from |
| 11. | (a) signed | (b) signature | (c) signatory |
| 12. | (a) clam | (b) calm | (c) claim |

SPELLING

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1011/101124-north_south_korea.html

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. became their most enste
2. The military tskeir
3. glinkli four people
4. ithgf back
5. it erdif test missiles
6. tkcso markets crashed

Paragraph 2

7. irmaylti and civilian personnel
8. the South Korean nanadmil
9. clami it as their own
10. eiddidv the two Koreas
11. signed a pacee deal
12. officials have celadl for calm

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1011/101124-north_south_korea.html

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () North Korean side of the Military Demarcation Line which divided the two Koreas after fighting in the Korean
- () missiles in the area but that none fell in the North's territory. South Korea's stock markets crashed at the news.
- () territory. The two countries never signed a peace deal and are still officially at war. Chinese officials have called for calm.
- () more military strikes. The North blamed the South for starting the crisis; the South said it fired test
- () of North Korea. It is over 100 km from the South Korean mainland. Both countries claim it as their own. It is on the
- () Island, killing four people and wounding 18 others. The South immediately threatened to fight back if there were
- () on a South Korean island. The military strike happened on Monday. The North fired dozens of rockets at Yeonpyeong
- () Relations between North and South Korea became their most tense for fifty years after North Korea's attack
- (**1**) War ended in 1953. However, the island is south of the Northern Limit Line, which South Korea says is its
- () Yeonpyeong Island, populated by 200 military and civilian personnel, is about 30 km off the coast

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

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With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. a North South Korea's Korean attack island on.

2. The strike on military happened Monday.

3. threatened immediately South The back fight to.

4. area The South said it fired test missiles in the.

5. the stock news markets crashed South at Korea's.

6. km coast Korea 30 the North About off of.

7. the Over South 100 Korean km mainland from.

8. countries Both own their as it claim.

9. countries deal never signed The a two peace.

10. called calm Chinese have for officials.

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. _____

WRITING

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1011/101124-north_south_korea.html

Write about Korean tensions for 10 minutes. Show your partner your paper. Correct each other's work.

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. KOREAN TENSIONS: Search the Internet and find more information about Korean tensions. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about Korean tensions. Include imaginary interviews with North and South Koreans. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. 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.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to the head of the United Nations. Ask him/her three questions about Korean tensions. Give him/her three of your opinions on how to reduce them. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.