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Superhero keeping Washington safe

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

<http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1101/110107-superhero.html>

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

7th January, 2010

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1101/110107-superhero.html>

There is a real-life superhero living in Washington. He calls himself Phoenix Jones and patrols and protects his town of Lynwood, a suburb of Seattle. He doesn't have a superhero car, like Batman. Instead, he gets around in his Kia, driven by his partner. Jones does look like a real superhero. He has a black and gold costume and looks like he just walked out of a Hollywood movie. He wears a bulletproof vest and carries a Taser stun gun and pepper spray. He recently stopped a car theft by chasing away the criminal who was breaking into a vehicle.

Jones decided to become a superhero because he got fed up with the crime in his town. He told reporters: "When I walk into a neighbourhood, criminals leave because they see the suit. I symbolize that the average person doesn't have to walk around and see bad things and do nothing." He is part of a wider team of citizens who want to help make their streets safer. They are all well trained. "Everyone on my team either has a military background or a martial arts background," he said.

PHRASE MATCH

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1101/110107-superhero.html>

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. a real- | a. of Seattle |
| 2. a suburb | b. vest |
| 3. he gets | c. theft |
| 4. bulletproof | d. a vehicle |
| 5. car | e. life superhero |
| 6. breaking into | f. around in his Kia |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. he got fed | a. background |
| 2. the average | b. arts |
| 3. see bad things | c. up with the crime |
| 4. They are all well | d. and do nothing |
| 5. a military | e. person |
| 6. martial | f. trained |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1101/110107-superhero.html>

_____ superhero living in Washington. He calls himself Phoenix Jones and patrols _____ of Lynwood, a suburb of Seattle. He doesn't have a superhero car, like Batman. Instead, _____ his Kia, driven by his partner. Jones does look like a real superhero. He has a black and gold costume and _____ walked out of a Hollywood movie. He wears a bulletproof vest and carries a Taser stun gun and pepper spray. He _____ theft by chasing away the criminal who _____ a vehicle.

Jones decided to become a superhero _____ up with the crime in his town. He told reporters: "When I walk into a neighbourhood, criminals _____ see the suit. I symbolize that _____ doesn't have to walk around and see bad _____." He is part of a wider team of citizens who want to help make their streets safer. They _____. "Everyone on my team either has a military background _____ background," he said.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1101/110107-superhero.html>

There is a real-life superhero living in Washington. He calls (1) _____ Phoenix Jones and patrols and protects his town of Lynwood, a (2) _____ of Seattle. He doesn't have a superhero car, (3) _____ Batman. Instead, he gets around in his Kia, driven by his partner. Jones does look like a real superhero. He has a black and gold costume and looks like he (4) _____ walked out of a Hollywood movie. He wears a bulletproof (5) _____ and carries a Taser stun gun and pepper spray. He recently stopped a car theft by chasing away the criminal who was breaking (6) _____ a vehicle.

Jones decided to become a superhero because he got fed (7) _____ with the crime in his town. He told reporters: "When I walk into a neighbourhood, criminals (8) _____ because they see the suit. I symbolize that the average person doesn't have to walk around and see bad things and do (9) _____." He is part of a (10) _____ team of citizens who want to help make their streets safer. They are all (11) _____ trained. "Everyone on my team either has a military background or a martial (12) _____ background," he said.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) him | (b) his | (c) himself |
| 2. | (a) suburb | (b) suburban | (c) suburbia |
| 3. | (a) love | (b) like | (c) fond of |
| 4. | (a) must | (b) just | (c) bust |
| 5. | (a) vest | (b) sock | (c) armband |
| 6. | (a) onto | (b) into | (c) to |
| 7. | (a) up | (b) down | (c) in |
| 8. | (a) say 'hi' | (b) steal | (c) leave |
| 9. | (a) not | (b) none | (c) nothing |
| 10. | (a) width | (b) wider | (c) widen |
| 11. | (a) well | (b) good | (c) fine |
| 12. | (a) artists | (b) artistic | (c) arts |

SPELLING

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1101/110107-superhero.html>

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. patrols and ettrpsoc his town
2. he gets rdunao in his Kia
3. a black and gold emtcسو
4. pepper yrsap
5. stopped a car hfett
6. breaking into a celhvie

Paragraph 2

7. he got fed up with the imrce
8. criminals eeavl
9. the aavrege person
10. team of sneiiczt
11. well tadreni
12. ltmiara arts

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1101/110107-superhero.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () of a wider team of citizens who want to help make their streets safer. They are all well
- () protects his town of Lynwood, a suburb of Seattle. He doesn't have a superhero car, like
- () I walk into a neighbourhood, criminals leave because they see the suit. I symbolize that the average
- () movie. He wears a bulletproof vest and carries a Taser stun gun and pepper spray. He recently stopped
- () Jones decided to become a superhero because he got fed up with the crime in his town. He told reporters: "When
- () superhero. He has a black and gold costume and looks like he just walked out of a Hollywood
- () has a military background or a martial arts background," he said.
- () person doesn't have to walk around and see bad things and do nothing." He is part
- () Batman. Instead, he gets around in his Kia, driven by his partner. Jones does look like a real
- (**1**) There is a real-life superhero living in Washington. He calls himself Phoenix Jones and patrols and
- () trained. "Everyone on my team either
- () a car theft by chasing away the criminal who was breaking into a vehicle.

WORD JUMBLE

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1101/110107-superhero.html>

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

1. life superhero A living real in - Washington.

2. a , have car Batman doesn't superhero like He.

3. a like look does Jones superhero real.

4. walked out of a Hollywood movie Looks like he just.

5. into criminal a who vehicle was breaking The.

6. got fed up with the crime in his town He.

7. they because leave Criminals suit the see.

8. and nothing See things do bad.

9. want make safer who help streets Citizens to their.

10. all are They trained well.

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. _____

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. SUPERHEROES: Search the Internet and find more information about superheroes. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about this superhero. Include imaginary interviews with him and a citizen of his town. 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 Phoenix Jones. Ask him three questions about being a superhero. Give him three of your opinions on superheroes. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.