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Snake fights for its life on plane

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

<http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1301/130114-snake.html>

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January 11th , 2012

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1301/130114-snake.html>

An airplane that flew from Australia to Papua New Guinea had a strange passenger that did not buy a ticket. A snake sneaked inside one of the wings of the jumbo jet. A woman saw the snake hanging from the wing 20 minutes after the plane took off. The snake was a scrub python. Airport officials said it slithered across the runway and then up the plane's wheels. The snake made it all the way to the Papua New Guinean capital, Port Moresby. Passengers watched the snake cling on for its life, but when it landed, the snake was already dead.

Airline workers said the python was hiding inside the wing of the airplane when the plane took off. The plane was flying at 250 mph for 90 minutes in a temperature of -12°C (minus 12 degrees Celsius). The strong wind blew the snake out of its hiding place. The wind banged the snake against the plane and left bloodstains around the wing. Passengers took videos and photos of the snake. Some people panicked and thought that there were other snakes onboard. They were right to be worried – six of the world's deadliest snakes live in Australia.

PHRASE MATCH

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1301/130114-snake.html>

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. An airplane that flew | a. the runway |
| 2. jumbo | b. from Australia |
| 3. 20 minutes after the plane | c. for its life |
| 4. slithered across | d. the snake |
| 5. Passengers watched | e. took off |
| 6. cling on | f. jet |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. hiding inside | a. blew the snake out |
| 2. flying at | b. the wing |
| 3. a temperature | c. and photos |
| 4. The strong wind | d. live in Australia |
| 5. Passengers took videos | e. of -12°C |
| 6. six of the world's deadliest snakes | f. 250 mph |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1301/130114-snake.html>

An airplane that flew from Australia to (1) _____ had a strange passenger that (2) _____. A snake sneaked inside one of the wings of the jumbo jet. (3)]_____ from the wing (4) _____ took off. The snake was a scrub python. Airport officials said it (5) _____ and then up the plane's wheels. The snake made it all the way to the Papua New Guinean capital, Port Moresby. Passengers watched the snake cling on for its life, but when it landed, (6) _____.

Airline workers said the (7) _____ wing of the airplane when the plane took off. The plane was flying at 250 mph for 90 minutes in a temperature of -12°C ((8) _____). (9) _____ out of its hiding place. The wind banged the snake against the plane (10) _____

Passengers took videos and photos of the snake. (11) _____ that there were other snakes onboard. They were right to be worried - six of (12) _____ live in Australia.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1301/130114-snake.html>

An (1) ____ that flew from Australia to Papua New Guinea had a strange passenger that did not buy a (2) _____. A snake (3) ____ inside one of the wings of the jumbo jet. A woman saw the snake hanging from the wing 20 minutes after the plane took off. The snake was a scrub python. Airport officials said it slithered across the (4) ____ and then up the plane's wheels. The snake made it all the way to the Papua New Guinean capital, Port Moresby. (5) ____ watched the snake cling on for its life, but when it landed, the snake was already (6) _____.

Airline (7) ____ said the python was hiding inside the wing of the airplane when the plane (8) ____ off. The plane was flying at 250 mph for 90 minutes in a (9) ____ of -12°C (minus 12 degrees Celsius). The strong wind blew the snake out of its hiding place. The wind banged the snake against the plane and left (10) ____ around the wing. Passengers took videos and photos of the snake. Some people panicked and thought that there were other snakes (11) _____. They were right to be worried – six of the world's (12) ____ snakes live in Australia.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | (a) airplane | (b) plane | (c) jet |
| 2. | (a) ticket | (b) airplane | (c) boarding pass |
| 3. | (a) sneaking | (b) sneak | (c) sneaked |
| 4. | (a) chase | (b) runaway | (c) running |
| 5. | (a) I | (b) Passengers | (c) Snakes |
| 6. | (a) alive | (b) living | (c) dead |
| 7. | (a) workers | (b) works | (c) watchers |
| 8. | (a) burrowed | (b) took | (c) gave |
| 9. | (a) speed | (b) altitude | (c) temperature |
| 10. | (a) bloody | (b) bloodstains | (c) bloods |
| 11. | (a) outboard | (b) economy class | (c) onboard |
| 12. | (a) deadliest | (b) dead | (c) dying |

SPELLING

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1301/130114-snake.html>

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. strange psseenrag
2. not buy a ktcite.
3. the snake ngnhgai from the wing
4. 20 unsmiet
5. The snake was a scrub ntohyp.
6. it esdierlth across the runway

Paragraph 2

7. iirAeln workers
8. The plane was ngylif
9. etprraemeut of -12°C
10. minus 12 degrees iluCess
11. Some people dnkiacpe
12. right to be rodriew

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1301/130114-snake.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

()	wheels. The snake made it all the way to the Papua New Guinean capital, Port Moresby. Passengers
(1)	An airplane that flew from Australia to Papua New Guinea had a strange
()	Celsius). The strong wind blew the snake out of its hiding place. The wind banged the snake against the
()	off. The plane was flying at 250 mph for 90 minutes in a temperature of -12°C (minus 12 degrees
()	off. The snake was a scrub python. Airport officials said it slithered across the runway and then up the plane's
()	passenger that did not buy a ticket. A snake sneaked inside one of the wings of the jumbo
()	people panicked and thought that there were other snakes onboard. They
()	plane and left bloodstains around the wing. Passengers took videos and photos of the snake. Some
()	jet. A woman saw the snake hanging from the wing 20 minutes after the plane took
()	watched the snake cling on for its life, but when it landed, the snake was already dead.
()	were right to be worried – six of the world's deadliest snakes live in Australia.
()	Airline workers said the python was hiding inside the wing of the airplane when the plane took

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1301/130114-snake.html>

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

1. A not strange buy passenger a that ticket did.

2. snake the A the from saw hanging wing woman.

3. officials the said runway it slithered Airport across.

4. way the all it Made capital Guinean New Papua the to.

5. already When , was landed snake dead it the.

6. workers Airline hiding was python the said.

7. the airplane when the plane took off . The wing of

8. was flying at 250 mph for 90 minutes The . plane

9. snake The against wind the banged plane the.

10. the snakes Australia of deadliest in Six world's live.

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

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about snakes. Include an imaginary interview with the passenger. 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 a snake expert. Ask him/her three questions about snakes. Give him/her three of your opinions on snakes. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.