

# www.newsflashenglish.com

The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 06/11/15

## Russian plane brought down by a bomb in Egypt

The Russian plane crash in Egypt was brought down by a bomb. According to French aviation officials it was not due to technical failures. They added the flight data recorder – the black box – suggests a “violent, sudden” explosion caused the crash, killing all 224 people on board.

According to British spies, intercepted militant calls indicated a bomb was put in the hold before take-off. Militants, known as the Sinai Province, and who are linked to the Islamic State group (IS) in Syria, have said they downed the plane.

The Metrojet Airbus A321 was flying from Sharm el-Sheikh to St. Petersburg when it came down last Saturday. Most of the victims were Russian.

US officials said on Friday that communications had been intercepted between IS officials in Syria and people in Sinai about how the jet had been brought down.

Following this new information Russian President Vladimir Putin halted all flights to the Red Sea, as well as to Cairo. Other countries, including the UK, have already suspended flights to Sharm el-Sheikh, where unsurprisingly security has now been beefed up.

British tourists have been describing the lack of security at the Egyptian airport, where for £20 they could jump the security scanner queues.

There have been chaotic scenes at Sharm el-Sheikh airport on Friday as many rescue flights agreed by airlines were forced to divert en route to the airport. EasyJet claimed that Egyptian authorities were blocking their extra flights.

The Egyptian tourist industry is expected to go into meltdown following all this. Tourism is a critical source of Egypt’s income.

### SPEAKING – WARM UP

Think of three things you know about the recent Russian plane crash in Egypt. Go round the room swapping details with others.

### LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

### READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

### SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

**1) The article** – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

**2) The article** - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

**3) Article quiz** - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

#### Student A questions

- 1) Name the airport in Egypt the Russian jet took off from.
- 2) What is the capital of Egypt?
- 3) Where is Sharm el-Sheikh?
- 4) What does meltdown mean?
- 5) Where will there possibly be meltdown?

#### Student B questions

- 1) What is the Islamic State group?
- 2) What type of plane crashed?
- 3) What did the Russian President do?
- 4) Who spied on whom?
- 5) What did US officials say?

**Category: Aviation / Russian Plane Crash / Egypt**  
**Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate**

## Russian plane brought down by a bomb in Egypt ...- 6<sup>th</sup> November 2015

### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs.* On the board write as many words as you can about '**Russian plane brought down by a bomb in Egypt**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs* - Suggest three airport security improvements the Egyptian authorities could make. Discuss together!

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

Suggest three incentives to make tourists consider visiting Sharm el-Sheikh. Write down your ideas. Discuss together.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

Suggest three solutions to rid the world of Islamic State. Discuss together!

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

*The teacher* will choose some pairs to hear their findings.

### DISCUSSION

#### Student A questions

- 1) Who planted the bomb on the stricken Russian airline?
- 2) What do you think of this particular plane crash?
- 3) What will Russia do next?
- 4) Why was there such a lack of information for the tourists stranded at Sharm el-Sheikh airport?
- 5) How can the Egyptian tourist industry recover?
- 6) Have you ever been bribed?
- 7) When did you last fly on a budget airline?
- 8) What do you think about the Russian air crash?
- 9) Are you worried about flying over the Middle East to your flight destination?
- 10) Have you learnt anything in today's English lesson?

### SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

*In groups.* One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Discussion FM* radio studio in London. Today's interview is: *Russian plane brought down by a bomb in Egypt.*

- 1) A tourist just back from Sharm el-Sheikh.
- 2) An aviation expert.
- 3) The Russian Ambassador in the UK.
- 4) An Egyptian Embassy spokesperson.

*The teacher* will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

### SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

*In pairs* - *Student A* is a news reporter in Sharm el-Sheikh. *Student B* is a tourist stuck in the airport. *Student A* interviews *Student B* about what's been going on? *3 mins.*

### SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

*Allow 10 minutes* – As a class.

Discuss the following ... Russian plane brought down by a bomb in Egypt What do we know about it?
---

*The teacher* can moderate the session.

### DISCUSSION

#### Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) Why did the Egyptian authorities block emergency recovery flights from Britain?
- 3) Have you ever been fast tracked through airport security?
- 4) Why was security so lax at Sharm el-Sheikh airport?
- 5) Have you ever been on holiday to Sharm el-Sheikh? If yes, explain!
- 6) Why is Egypt being targeted by the Islamic militants?
- 7) Would you like to visit Egypt currently?
- 8) What is America doing during all this?
- 9) Is Egypt doing too little too late in its attempt to save its tourist industry?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

Russian plane brought down by a bomb in Egypt ...- 6<sup>th</sup> November 2015

**GAP FILL: READING**

**Russian plane brought down by a bomb in Egypt**

The Russian plane crash in Egypt was brought down by a (1)\_\_. According to French aviation (2)\_\_ it was not due to technical failures. They added the flight data recorder - the (3)\_\_ - suggests a "violent, (4)\_" explosion caused the (5)\_\_, killing all 224 people on board.

According to British spies, intercepted militant calls indicated a bomb was put in the hold before take-off. Militants, known as the Sinai Province, and who are linked to the Islamic State group (IS) in Syria, have said they downed the (6)\_\_.

The Metrojet Airbus A321 was flying from Sharm el-Sheikh to St. Petersburg when it came down last Saturday. Most of the (7)\_\_ were Russian.

US officials said on Friday that communications had been intercepted between IS officials in Syria and people in Sinai about how the (8)\_\_ had been brought down.

**jet / plane / sudden / bomb / crash / victims / officials / black box**

Following this new information Russian President Vladimir Putin halted all flights to the Red Sea, as well as to Cairo. Other countries, including the UK, have already suspended flights to Sharm el-Sheikh, where (1)\_\_ (2)\_\_ has now been beefed up.

British tourists have been describing the (3)\_\_ of security at the Egyptian airport, where for £20 they could jump the security scanner queues.

There have been chaotic scenes at Sharm el-Sheikh airport on Friday as many rescue flights agreed by airlines were forced to (4)\_\_ en route to the airport. EasyJet claimed that Egyptian authorities were blocking their extra flights.

The Egyptian tourist industry is expected to go into meltdown following all this. (5)\_\_ is a (6)\_\_ (7)\_\_ of Egypt's (8)\_\_.

**tourism / income / lack / security / source / critical / unsurprisingly / divert**

**GAP FILL: GRAMMAR**

**Russian plane brought down by a bomb in Egypt**

The Russian plane crash in Egypt was brought down (1)\_\_ a bomb. According to French aviation officials it was not (2)\_\_ to technical failures. They added the flight data recorder - the black box - suggests a "violent, sudden" explosion caused the crash, killing all 224 people on board.

According to British spies, intercepted militant calls indicated a bomb was put (3)\_\_ the hold before take-off. Militants, known as the Sinai Province, and (4)\_\_ are linked to the Islamic State group (IS) in Syria, have said they downed the plane.

(5)\_\_ Metrojet Airbus A321 was flying from Sharm el-Sheikh to St. Petersburg when (6)\_\_ came down last Saturday. Most (7)\_\_ the victims were Russian.

US officials said on Friday that communications had been intercepted between IS officials in Syria and people in Sinai about (8)\_\_ the jet had been brought down.

**who / how / due / the / by / of / in / it**

Following (1)\_\_ new information Russian President Vladimir Putin halted all flights to the Red Sea, (2)\_\_ to Cairo. (3)\_\_ countries, including the UK, have already suspended flights to Sharm el-Sheikh, (4)\_\_ unsurprisingly security has now been beefed up.

British tourists have been describing the lack of security at the Egyptian airport, where for £20 they (5)\_\_ jump the security scanner queues.

There have been chaotic scenes at Sharm el-Sheikh airport on Friday as (6)\_\_ rescue flights agreed by airlines were forced to divert en route to the airport. EasyJet claimed (7)\_\_ Egyptian authorities were blocking their extra flights.

The Egyptian tourist industry is expected to go (8)\_\_ meltdown following all this. Tourism is a critical source of Egypt's income.

**many / could / as well as / that / where / this / into / other /**

## Russian plane brought down by a bomb in Egypt ...- 6<sup>th</sup> November 2015



### GAP FILL: LISTENING

#### Russian plane brought down by a bomb in Egypt

The \_\_\_\_\_ in Egypt was brought down by a bomb. According to French aviation officials it was not due to technical failures. They added the flight data recorder – the black box – suggests a “\_\_\_\_\_” explosion caused the crash, killing all 224 people on board.

\_\_\_\_\_ spies, intercepted militant calls indicated a bomb was put in the hold before take-off. Militants, known as the Sinai Province, and who are linked to the Islamic State group (IS) in Syria, have said they downed the plane.

The Metrojet Airbus A321 was flying from Sharm el-Sheikh to St. Petersburg \_\_\_\_\_ last Saturday. Most of the victims were Russian.

US officials said on Friday that communications had been intercepted between \_\_\_\_\_ and people in Sinai about how the jet had been brought down. Following this new information Russian President Vladimir Putin halted all flights to the Red Sea, \_\_\_\_\_.

Other countries, including the UK, have already suspended flights to Sharm el-Sheikh, \_\_\_\_\_ security has now been beefed up.

British tourists have been describing the lack of security at the Egyptian airport, where for £20 they could jump the security scanner queues. There have been chaotic scenes at \_\_\_\_\_ on Friday as many rescue flights agreed by airlines were forced to divert en route to the airport. EasyJet claimed that \_\_\_\_\_ were blocking their extra flights. The Egyptian tourist industry is expected to go into meltdown following all this. Tourism is \_\_\_\_\_ Egypt’s income.

**www.newsflashenglish.com**

Copyright D. J. Robinson 2015 (B1)

### WRITING/SPELLING

#### WRITING / SPEAKING

**1) On the board** - *In pairs*, list 20 things you know about: **Sharm el-Sheikh**. *One-two minutes. Talk about each of them.*

**2) Sentence starters** - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) The Russian plane \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Egypt \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) The bomb \_\_\_\_\_

**3) In class** - Write 50 words about: *Russian plane brought down by a bomb in Egypt*. Your work can be read out in class.

**4) Homework** - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: *Russian plane brought down by a bomb in Egypt*. Your email can be read out in class.

#### SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) bomb
- 2) officials
- 3) communications
- 4) information
- 5) Cairo
- 6) Egypt
- 7) countries
- 8) unsurprisingly
- 9) airlines
- 10) extra

#### SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

**Pass = 12**

**Good = 15**

**Very good = 18**

**Excellent = 20**

- 11) meltdown
- 12) critical
- 13) source
- 14) tourism
- 15) crash
- 16) aviation
- 17) sudden
- 18) explosion
- 19) militant
- 20) victims

Russian plane brought down by a bomb in Egypt ...- *6<sup>th</sup> November 2015*