

# NEWS ENGLISH LESSONS.com

## Failed bomb attack on flight to USA

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

[http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091225-bomb\\_attack.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091225-bomb_attack.html)

### IN THIS LESSON:

The Reading / Tapescript	2
Phrase Match	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
Multiple Choice	5
Spelling	6
Put the Text Back Together	7
Scrambled Sentences	8
Discussion	9
Writing	10
Homework	11

**ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.**

**25th December, 2009**

# THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091225-bomb\\_attack.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091225-bomb_attack.html)

An airplane in the USA has survived a bomb attack. The flight from Amsterdam to Detroit, Michigan was 20 minutes away from landing. It had 278 passengers and 11 crew aboard. The bomber was a 23-year-old Nigerian man called Abdul Farouk Abdulmutallab. He told police he was working for Al Qaeda. Mr. Abdulmutallab tried to make a bomb on the airplane with a mix of powder and liquid chemicals. His bomb exploded but did not cause a lot of damage. Instead, he badly burnt one of his legs. Flight attendants quickly put the fire out.

Airports and airlines around the world are now on high alert. Security experts believe there will be more attempts to blow up airplanes. Al Qaeda has a history of attacking flights to and in the USA. The worst were the 9-11 attacks in 2001. Since then, there have been several near misses. Also in 2001, Briton Richard Reid tried to blow up a Paris-Miami flight using explosives hidden in his shoes. He was nicknamed the "shoe bomber". In 2006, police in Britain discovered a plan to bomb transatlantic flights using liquid bombs disguised as soft drinks.

# PHRASE MATCH

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091225-bomb\\_attack.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091225-bomb_attack.html)

## Match the following phrases from the article.

### Paragraph 1

- |                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. survived a          | a. 11 crew          |
| 2. 20 minutes away     | b. one of his legs  |
| 3. 278 passengers and  | c. bomb attack      |
| 4. a mix of powder and | d. fire out         |
| 5. he badly burnt      | e. from landing     |
| 6. put the             | f. liquid chemicals |

### Paragraph 2

- |                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. on high            | a. attempts              |
| 2. there will be more | b. misses                |
| 3. Security           | c. in his shoes          |
| 4. several near       | d. transatlantic flights |
| 5. explosives hidden  | e. alert                 |
| 6. a plan to bomb     | f. experts               |

# LISTENING GAP FILL

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091225-bomb\\_attack.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091225-bomb_attack.html)

An airplane in the USA \_\_\_\_\_ bomb attack. The flight from Amsterdam to Detroit, Michigan was 20 minutes away from landing. It had 278 passengers \_\_\_\_\_. The bomber was a 23-year-old Nigerian man called Abdul Farouk Abdulmutallab. He told police he was working for Al Qaeda. Mr. Abdulmutallab \_\_\_\_\_ bomb on the airplane with \_\_\_\_\_ and liquid chemicals. His bomb exploded but did not cause a lot of damage. Instead, \_\_\_\_\_ of his legs. Flight attendants quickly \_\_\_\_\_.

Airports and airlines around the world are \_\_\_\_\_. Security experts believe there will be \_\_\_\_\_ blow up airplanes. Al Qaeda \_\_\_\_\_ attacking flights to and in the USA. The worst were the 9-11 attacks in 2001. Since then, there have been \_\_\_\_\_. Also in 2001, Briton Richard Reid tried to blow up a Paris-Miami flight using explosives \_\_\_\_\_ shoes. He was nicknamed the "shoe bomber". In 2006, police in Britain discovered a plan to bomb transatlantic flights using liquid bombs disguised \_\_\_\_\_.

# MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091225-bomb\\_attack.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091225-bomb_attack.html)

An airplane in the USA has (1) \_\_\_\_\_ a bomb attack. The flight from Amsterdam to Detroit, Michigan was 20 minutes away from (2) \_\_\_\_\_. It had 278 passengers and 11 crew (3) \_\_\_\_\_. The bomber was a 23-year-old Nigerian man called Abdul Farouk Abdulmutallab. He told police he was working for Al Qaeda. Mr. Abdulmutallab tried to make a bomb on the airplane with a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of powder and liquid chemicals. His bomb exploded but did not cause a lot of damage. Instead, he (5) \_\_\_\_\_ burnt one of his legs. Flight attendants quickly put the fire out.

Airports and airlines around the world are now on (6) \_\_\_\_\_ alert. Security experts believe there will be more attempts to blow up airplanes. Al Qaeda has a (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of attacking flights to and in the USA. The worst were the 9-11 attacks in 2001. Since then, there have been several (8) \_\_\_\_\_ misses. Also in 2001, Briton Richard Reid tried to blow up a Paris-Miami flight using explosives hidden in his shoes. He (9) \_\_\_\_\_ nicknamed the "shoe bomber". In 2006, police in Britain discovered a plan to bomb transatlantic flights using liquid bombs disguised as (10) \_\_\_\_\_ drinks.

## Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- |     |               |              |                |
|-----|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) survived  | (b) survivor | (c) survival   |
| 2.  | (a) lands     | (b) landed   | (c) landing    |
| 3.  | (a) abroad    | (b) abode    | (c) aboard     |
| 4.  | (a) mix       | (b) mixes    | (c) mixed      |
| 5.  | (a) bad       | (b) badly    | (c) worse      |
| 6.  | (a) high      | (b) tall     | (c) up         |
| 7.  | (a) historian | (b) history  | (c) historical |
| 8.  | (a) nearly    | (b) near     | (c) nears      |
| 9.  | (a) did       | (b) has      | (c) was        |
| 10. | (a) soft      | (b) squishy  | (c) smooth     |

# SPELLING

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091225-bomb\\_attack.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091225-bomb_attack.html)

**Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.**

## Paragraph 1

1. survived a bomb aakttc
2. 11 crew oarbad
3. noikgrw for Al Qaeda
4. iudqil chemicals
5. cause a lot of mgadae
6. lfgthi attendants

## Paragraph 2

7. on high eatrl
8. Security xpesert
9. The rwsto were the 9-11 attacks
10. ervlase near misses
11. explosives nheddi in his shoes
12. tsof drinks

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091225-bomb\\_attack.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091225-bomb_attack.html)

## Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) to blow up a Paris-Miami flight using explosives hidden in his shoes. He was nicknamed the "shoe bomber". In 2006,
- ( **1** ) An airplane in the USA has survived a bomb attack. The flight from Amsterdam to Detroit, Michigan was 20
- ( ) Abdulmutallab tried to make a bomb on the airplane with a mix of powder and liquid chemicals. His bomb
- ( ) minutes away from landing. It had 278 passengers and 11 crew aboard. The bomber was a 23-year-
- ( ) Airports and airlines around the world are now on high alert. Security experts believe there will be
- ( ) more attempts to blow up airplanes. Al Qaeda has a history of attacking flights to and in the USA. The worst
- ( ) old Nigerian man called Abdul Farouk Abdulmutallab. He told police he was working for Al Qaeda. Mr.
- ( ) were the 9-11 attacks in 2001. Since then, there have been several near misses. Also in 2001, Briton Richard Reid tried
- ( ) exploded but did not cause a lot of damage. Instead, he badly burnt one of his legs. Flight attendants quickly put the fire out.
- ( ) police in Britain discovered a plan to bomb transatlantic flights using liquid bombs disguised as soft drinks.

# THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091225-bomb\\_attack.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091225-bomb_attack.html)

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

1. USA has survived a bomb attack An airplane in the

---

2. 278 aboard passengers and It 11 had crew.

---

3. a was bomber The man Nigerian old - year - 23.

---

4. of mix A chemicals liquid and powder.

---

5. out fire the put quickly attendants Flight.

---

6. on the now alert around are high Airlines world.

---

7. airplanes will attempts up There more blow be to.

---

8. The the 9-11 2001 were in worst attacks .

---

9. transatlantic plan bomb flights A to.

---

10. disguised bombs liquid Using drinks soft as.

---



## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

### **STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

Copyright © www.NewsEnglishLessons.com

---

## **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. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find more information about the failed terror attack. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about terrorism. Include imaginary interviews with a member of Al-Qaeda and Barack Obama. 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 leader of your country. Ask him/her three questions about terrorism. Give him/her three of your opinions on how to beat terrorism. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.