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Surfer breaks record for biggest wave

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

<http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1205/120513-surfing.html>

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13th May, 2012

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1205/120513-surfing.html>

A surfer has broken the world record for riding the biggest wave. The Guinness Book of World Records said a Hawaiian man caught a wave that was 23.7 metres tall, which broke the previous record by more than 30 cm. The surfer, Garrett McNamara, 44, told the Associated Press news agency that he nearly stayed in bed the day he broke the record because he was exhausted. However, he knew he would have fun when he got into the ocean and on his surfboard. "Everything came together. Everything felt right," he said.

Mr McNamara's record-breaking surf was off the coast of Portugal, above an undersea canyon that is famous for producing some of the highest waves on the planet. He took up surfing at the age of 11 and turned professional when he was 17. He said he was happy about breaking the record but that it was more important his story could encourage people to follow their passions in life. He said: "The world would be a much better place if everyone was doing what they wanted to do."

PHRASE MATCH

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1205/120513-surfing.html>

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. A surfer has broken | a. was 23.7 metres tall |
| 2. a wave that | b. in bed |
| 3. broke the previous | c. the ocean |
| 4. he nearly stayed | d. right |
| 5. he got into | e. the world record |
| 6. Everything felt | f. record |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. off the coast | a. highest waves |
| 2. some of the | b. follow their passions |
| 3. He took | c. better place |
| 4. turned | d. up surfing |
| 5. encourage people to | e. of Portugal |
| 6. The world would be a much | f. professional |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1205/120513-surfing.html>

A surfer has broken the world record _____ wave. The Guinness Book of World Records said a Hawaiian man caught a wave that was 23.7 metres tall, _____ record by more than 30 cm. The surfer, Garrett McNamara, 44, told the Associated Press news agency that he _____ the day he broke the record because _____. However, he knew he would have fun when he _____ and on his surfboard. "Everything came together. _____," he said.

Mr McNamara's record-breaking surf _____ of Portugal, above an undersea canyon that is famous for producing some of the highest _____. He took up surfing at the age of 11 and _____ when he was 17. He said he was happy about breaking the record but that it was more important his story could _____ follow their _____. He said: "The world would be a much better place _____ doing what they wanted to do."

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1205/120513-surfing.html>

A surfer has broken the world record (1) _____ riding the biggest wave. The Guinness Book of World Records said a Hawaiian man (2) _____ a wave that was 23.7 metres tall, which broke the (3) _____ record by more than 30 cm. The surfer, Garrett McNamara, 44, told the Associated Press news agency that he (4) _____ stayed in bed the day he broke the record because he was (5) _____. However, he knew he would have fun when he got into the ocean and on his surfboard. "Everything came together. Everything (6) _____ right," he said.

Mr McNamara's record-breaking surf was (7) _____ the coast of Portugal, above an undersea canyon that is (8) _____ for producing some of the highest waves on the planet. He took (9) _____ surfing at the age of 11 and turned professional when he was 17. He said he was happy about breaking the record but that it was (10) _____ important his story could encourage people to follow their passions (11) _____ life. He said: "The world would be a (12) _____ better place if everyone was doing what they wanted to do."

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) of | (b) from | (c) for |
| 2. | (a) taken | (b) caught | (c) threw |
| 3. | (a) swimming | (b) after | (c) previous |
| 4. | (a) nearly | (b) near | (c) neared |
| 5. | (a) exhaustion | (b) exhausted | (c) exhaust |
| 6. | (a) feeling | (b) felt | (c) feels |
| 7. | (a) through | (b) under | (c) off |
| 8. | (a) famous | (b) fame | (c) famously |
| 9. | (a) down | (b) up | (c) on |
| 10. | (a) more | (b) much | (c) many |
| 11. | (a) on | (b) at | (c) in |
| 12. | (a) much | (b) many | (c) some |

SPELLING

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1205/120513-surfing.html>

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. enrbok the world record
2. riding the sgibteg wave
3. the riousvpe record
4. he was tsaxdeeh
5. he got into the aceon
6. Everything came htegerto

Paragraph 2

7. off the sotac of Portugal
8. the highest waves on the tealpn
9. nterud professional when he was 17
10. his story could gneuaocre people
11. follow their sipassno
12. a much better calpe

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1205/120513-surfing.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () life. He said: "The world would be a much better place if everyone was doing what they wanted to do."
- () agency that he nearly stayed in bed the day he broke the record because he was
- () Mr McNamara's record-breaking surf was off the coast of Portugal, above an undersea
- () of World Records said a Hawaiian man caught a wave that was 23.7 metres tall, which broke
- () 17. He said he was happy about breaking the record but that it was more
- () important his story could encourage people to follow their passions in
- () exhausted. However, he knew he would have fun when he got into the ocean and
- () on his surfboard. "Everything came together. Everything felt right," he said.
- () canyon that is famous for producing some of the highest waves on the
- (**1**) A surfer has broken the world record for riding the biggest wave. The Guinness Book
- () the previous record by more than 30 cm. The surfer, Garrett McNamara, 44, told the Associated Press news
- () planet. He took up surfing at the age of 11 and turned professional when he was

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

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

1. the broken has surfer A record world.

2. that wave A 7.23 Caught tall was metres.

3. cm the by 30 Broke record than previous more.

4. the broke he day the bed in stayed nearly He record.

5. got into the ocean He would have fun when he.

6. Famous the for highest producing waves some of.

7. surfing age up the 11 took at of He.

8. people follow passions Encourage to their.

9. much world better would place be a The.

10. they Everyone wanted was to doing do what.

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/1205/120513-surfing.html>

Write about world records 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. WORLD RECORDS: Search the Internet and find more information about world records. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about world record for surfing the biggest wave. Include an imaginary interview with the record breaker. 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 world records expert. Ask him/her three questions about world records. Give him/her three of your opinions on them. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.