
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Words in the News

New York's view from the top



NB: This is not a word-for-word transcript

Transcript

The Freedom Tower in New York. The tallest building in the western **hemisphere** is now open to visitors.

The history of the city **flashes by** on the 100-floor journey to the top.

The skyscraper replaces the World Trade Center, and many visitors will **inevitably** think of September 11th, 2001.

New York still feels the **trauma** of those events. But the opening of this **landmark** is part of the city's ongoing recovery.

Vocabulary

hemisphere

(here) half of the Earth

flashes by

appears for a short time and then disappears

inevitably

unavoidably

trauma

(here) shock caused by a deeply disturbing experience

landmark

a building or site which helps to identify a place

Watch this video online: New York's view from the top <http://bbc.in/1FBrHno>

Exercise

Use one of the words or phrases below to complete each of these sentences from news reports.

Note that you may have to change the form of a word to complete the sentence correctly.

hemisphere / flashes by / inevitably / trauma / landmark

1. His injuries were so severe he lost his right leg, but he says the psychological _____ has been harder to deal with.
2. The princess, who is fourth in line to the throne, was delivered at 08:34 BST on Saturday at St Mary's Hospital in London, and weighed 8lbs 3oz (3.7kg).

Tower Bridge was among several London _____ lit up in pink in her honour.
3. Haiti is the poorest country in the western _____ and has suffered a number of recent disasters, including four hurricanes and storms in 2008 that killed hundreds.
4. Mr Chisolm said: "With hundreds of thousands of people seeing the film around the world, some will undoubtedly get hooked on Hardy and will _____ come and visit the places and his houses."
5. Going deeper into the Javanese countryside, names of small towns and villages _____ : Kebumen, Gombong, Purwokerto. Deep in Indonesia's interior, the ubiquitous Indomaret convenience chain outlets are replaced by traditional family shops, a relic of the old ways. It is a world away from big city life.

Answers

1. His injuries were so severe he lost his right leg, but he says the psychological **trauma** has been harder to deal with.

Source: Mercian soldiers trained to identify early trauma signs

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-nottinghamshire-12535475>

2. The princess, who is fourth in line to the throne, was delivered at 08:34 BST on Saturday at St Mary's Hospital in London, and weighed 8lbs 3oz (3.7kg).

Tower Bridge was among several London **landmarks** lit up in pink in her honour.

Source: Royal baby: Princess's first night at Kensington Palace

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-32571330>

3. Haiti is the poorest country in the western **hemisphere** and has suffered a number of recent disasters, including four hurricanes and storms in 2008 that killed hundreds.

Source: Haiti devastated by massive earthquake

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/8455629.stm>

4. Mr Chisolm said: "With hundreds of thousands of people seeing the film around the world, some will undoubtedly get hooked on Hardy and will **inevitably** come and visit the places and his houses."

Source: Thomas Hardy's Dorset inspirations

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-dorset-32393785>

5. Going deeper into the Javanese countryside, names of small towns and villages **flash by**: Kebumen, Gombong, Purwokerto. Deep in Indonesia's interior, the ubiquitous Indomaret convenience chain outlets are replaced by traditional family shops, a relic of the old ways. It is a world away from big city life.

Source: Sumarti Ningsih murder: From Indonesia to Hong Kong

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-30110872>