

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

## Tuesday English News Report:

**Broadcast Date: Feb 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Bomb **disposal** officers were **deployed** on Wednesday morning after a worker found a second bomb at a Hong Kong construction site where a 450kg wartime explosive of the same model was unearthed over the weekend. Police have since successfully removed a wartime bomb discovered at a construction site in the heart of Hong Kong yesterday.

According to RTHK, the Star Ferry between Tsim Sha Tsui and Wan Chai **resumed** service at around 11:15am today after the bomb was removed from Harbour Road in Wan Chai.

Police had to **seal off** the area, stores had to be **shuttered**, ferry and bus services were suspended, and more than 4,000 people were **evacuated** from the Wan Chai district after the bomb was discovered at the construction site.

It was the second wartime bomb found at the construction site within a week, the first one was found on Saturday. The operation to remove the bomb took at least 24 hours.

Bomb disposal officer Alick McWhirter confirmed to reporters on the site this afternoon that both bombs were of the same American-made model that had been dropped on Hong Kong during the Second World War, but added that “this was a particularly difficult and dangerous operation”.

“Because of the rain yesterday the working conditions were not good, because of the location it was extremely difficult to access it.”

He also added that this particular bomb was dangerous because its fuse mechanism was severely damaged and due to its position in the mud, but added that they were quicker and more prepared this time.

When asked by reporters if he **anticipates** that there will be a third similar bomb at the construction site, McWhirter responded: “I never anticipate, I just wait to see what happens”.

Unexploded wartime bombs or grenades are frequently found by hikers or construction workers in Hong Kong, which was the scene of **fierce** fighting between Japanese and British **allied** forces in 1941 and was also bombed from the air during sorties.

In 2014 police **defused** a wartime bomb weighing nearly one ton, the largest yet found in the city.

*Adapted from South China Morning Post dated 31<sup>st</sup> Jan & Coconuts Hong Kong dated 1<sup>st</sup> Feb, 2018.*

## Questions to think about:

- What do you think of a job such as being a bomb disposal expert? What type of characteristics would be needed to do this job effectively?
- What are some other dangerous jobs? Would you like to do any of them?
- What can we learn from the discovery of these bombs? What does it tell you about history?
- In some countries such as Cambodia landmines were used as a weapon. What do you think of such a practice? What have been the consequences? Some famous people have worked hard/been working hard in charities dedicated to getting rid of landmines and helping the victims. Do you know who they are/who they have been? What do you think of their work?



**I: Vocabulary and understanding meaning:** Match the meaning and/or synonym (words with a similar or the same meaning) to the words which have been highlighted in bold in the article.

Column A: Word from text	Letter	Column B: Meaning or synonym
1. disposal (n)		A: remove (someone) from a place of danger to a safer place
2. deploy (v)		B: expect or predict for something
3. resume (v)		C: close / close up, for example, a shop
4. seal off (phrasal verb)		D: the action or process of getting rid of something
5. shutter (v)		E: to prevent people from entering an area or building, often because it is dangerous/to close off an area for public protection
6. evacuate (v)		F: remove the fuse from (an explosive device) in order to prevent it from exploding / make a situation less tense or dangerous
7. anticipate (v)		G: a state formally cooperating with another for a military or other purpose / a person who supports you
8. fierce (adj)		H: start or open again
9. ally (n)		I: having or displaying a violent or ferocious aggressiveness / (weather) powerful and destructive
10. defuse (v)		J: move (troops or equipment) into position for military action or to protect the public

**II: Usage of vocabulary:** Choose the most appropriate word from the table above to fill in the missing words of the sentences below making sure your answers are grammatically correct.

1. In Bali last year, (a) \_\_\_\_\_ or predicting that the volcano, Mount Agung, may erupt at any time, authorities (b) \_\_\_\_\_ residents living nearby and moved them into safer areas. Businesses including shops (c) \_\_\_\_\_ by their owners as they could no longer operate, but of course, hoping they could (d) \_\_\_\_\_ once it was safe to do so.
2. Fearing the public could be in danger because of a terrorist threat, the police (a) \_\_\_\_\_ the centre of the city. Nobody was allowed to enter. The government also (b) \_\_\_\_\_ the military to help the police.
3. We should be very careful of how we \_\_\_\_\_ of poisonous waste as it is harmful to both the environment and people. We must make sure we throw it away safely.
4. The police did their best to negotiate with the terrorists to \_\_\_\_\_ the explosive and dangerous situation. The police believed it was better to talk first rather than use force.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ typhoon Hato in August last year caused a lot of flooding and damage especially in Macau.
6. Who will be your \_\_\_\_\_ in this dangerous mission? Who will stand by your side?

## Challenge of the week: What do you know about history?

ENGLISH CORNER CAFÉ IS ALWAYS OPEN ON A TUESDAY FOR DRINKS, SNACKS, CONVERSATION & GAMES

See Ms Roberts for prizes if you know the answers!