

Name: _____ Class: _____ ()

Tuesday English News Report: Broadcast Date: Dec 5th, 2017

Donald Trump dismisses Chinese diplomacy with North Korea as having ‘no impact on Little Rocket Man’

US President Donald Trump **dismissed** a Chinese diplomatic effort to **rein in** North Korea’s weapons programme as a failure on Thursday, while Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said Beijing should do more to limit oil supplies to Pyongyang.

In a tweet, Trump delivered another insulting **barb** against North Korean leader Kim Jong-un, who he called “Little Rocket Man” and a “sick puppy” after North Korea test-fired its most advanced missile to date on Wednesday.

According to Trump, the Chinese Envoy, who just returned from North Korea, seems to have had no impact on Little Rocket Man. Hard to believe his people, and the military, put up with living in such horrible conditions. Russia and China are also amongst countries **condemning** the launch.

Separately on Thursday, Tillerson welcomed Chinese efforts on North Korea, but said Beijing could do more to limit its oil exports to the country.

**Demonstrating aggression and willingness to fight*

While Trump has been **bellicose* at times in rhetoric toward North Korea, Tillerson has persistently held out hopes for a return to **dialogue** if North Korea shows it is willing to give up its nuclear weapons programme.

However, Tillerson may not remain in his job long, with disagreements with Trump over North Korea being one factor. On Thursday, a senior Trump administration official said the White House had developed a plan to replace Tillerson with Mike Pompeo, the director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Trump’s administration has stressed it favours a diplomatic solution to the crisis, which **stems** from Pyongyang’s pursuit of a nuclear-tipped missile capable of hitting the United which has resulted in tensions **flaring** anew.

Trump has **pledged** more sanctions in response to the latest test and, at an emergency UN Security Council meeting late Wednesday, the United States warned North Korea’s leadership would be “utterly destroyed” if war were to break out.

North Korea has said its weapons programmes are a necessary defence against US plans to **invade**. The United States, which has 28,500 troops in South Korea as a legacy of the 1950-53 Korean war, **denies** any such intention.

Previous US administrations have failed to stop North Korea from developing nuclear weapons and a sophisticated missile programme. Trump, who has previously said the United States would “totally destroy” North Korea if necessary to protect itself and its allies from the nuclear threat, has also struggled to contain Pyongyang since taking office in January.

Questions to think about:

- What is your opinion on the issue or issues raised in this article?
- What do you think of Trump’s habit of tweeting? What is the possible of impact of his tweeting?
- What do you think of the US administration’s frequent change of personnel in office? What may it demonstrate to the rest of the world?
- What do you think is the contradiction or hypocrisy in North Korea’s spending on its nuclear programme? Consider, for example, the situation of the majority of its people.



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. dismiss(ed) (v)		A: (of a situation or emotion) suddenly become intense or violent (similar to ‘spark’)
2. rein in (phrasal verb)		B: a deliberately hurtful remark or comment
3. barb (n)		C: talk about a problem between two parties including countries to try and resolve an issue
4. condemn(ing) (v)		D: treat as unworthy of consideration, think it not important enough to consider or take into account
5. dialogue (n)		E: a serious promise (to be kept and not broken)
6. stem (v)		F: completely disapprove of something, denounce
7. flare (v)		G: to say something is not true, to refute an allegation
8. pledge(d) (v)		H: control someone or something to stop them causing more trouble
9. invade (n)		I: originate in or be caused by
10. deny (v)		J: (of an armed force) enter (a country or region) to occupy it and control

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.

- Germany’s _____ of Russia in WWII was one of the main factors leading to its downfall.
- The suspect the police took into custody _____ he had committed any crime. The suspect said he was innocent and had an alibi to prove it.
- The whole world _____ the terrorist attack saying those responsible were cowards and should be brought to justice.
- The bully used taunts and _____ to try and get a reaction from his victim, but the victim simply ignored him.
- In court witnesses need to take a solemn _____, what is known as an oath, to promise they will say the whole truth and nothing but the truth.
- If countries have disagreements, they should do their best to use _____ to resolve the problem. War should be absolutely the last resort.
- The prison guards needed to use force to _____ the prisoners who were getting out of control and causing trouble.
- The pain (a) _____ up and gets worse whenever he drinks alcohol. Actually, all his health issues (b) _____ from, or are caused by, his refusal to take proper care of himself.
- The case _____ in court because there wasn’t enough evidence.

Challenge of the week: Xmas fun

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

