EARTHQUAKE IN CHRISTCHURCH



A few years ago, a terrible earthquake happened in the city of Christchurch in New Zealand. It killed 185 people, but Jay Watson had a lucky escape.

Reporter What were you doing when the earthquake happened?

Jay I wasn't at school that day because I was sick. I was sitting on my bed when I heard a terrible noise and the whole house started shaking.

Reporter What did you do?

Jay I realized it was an earthquake so I quickly got down on the floor between my bed and the wall. I thought that was the safest place. At school, we often have earthquake drills, so we know what to do in an emergency.

Reporter What happened next?

Jay Suddenly the wall of my bedroom collapsed and I fell out of the house! I fell about ten metres, from the second floor of the house into the front garden!

Reporter Were you hurt?

Jay At first I thought I was seriously injured, but I actually only had a few scratches and bruises on my back. I was really lucky!

Reporter How did you feel?

Jay Scared! And not just because of the fall. Lots of bricks fell on top of me while I was lying on the ground. Our next-door neighbour, who's a firefighter, pulled me out from under the bricks. My mum couldn't believe that I was alive!

Reporter How did your life change because of the earthquake?

Jay Well, we had to move to a new house because there was so much damage to our old one. It's in a different area, but I still go to the same school. And it's only got one floor, so I feel a bit safer!

Read the interview and choose the correct answer.

1. Jay tried to…

escape.	protect himself.

2. Jay fell…

out of a window.	through a wall.

3. Jay was…

badly hurt in the earthquake.	not badly hurt in the earthquake.

4. Jay was helped by …

someone he knew.	a team of firefighters.

5. Jay no longer…

lives in the same area.	goes to the same school.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Match the headlines with the newspaper articles 1-3.







1 Students and teachers at Grange Secondary School in the village of Hepworth near Dundee were unable to get home last night because heavy snow was blocking the roads. 'We had to sleep on the floor – it wasn't very comfortable,' said 13-year-old Jamie Banks. But it wasn't all bad. 'The teachers let us play games on the school computers,' Jamie added.

2 Icy conditions were still causing problems all over the country today. However, in the north of England some students were celebrating when their school was closed because of the bad weather. 'This is great! Now I can go and play snowballs with my friends,' said Jessica Watson, a Year 8 student from Durham.

3 A student from Mortimer School, Coventry, has come first in a national photography competition. 14-year-old Lucy Preston used her mobile phone to take her winning photo of a frozen lake in winter. What is she going to do with her £500 prize? 'I'm going to use it to buy a camera!' she laughed.

Read the articles and answer the questions.

1. Who said he had fun in a difficult situation?

Jamie Banks	Jessica Watson	Lucy Preston

2. Who won something?

Jamie Banks	Jessica Watson	Lucy Preston

3. Who felt happy when she heard some news?

Jamie Banks	Jessica Watson	Lucy Preston

4. Who plans to spend some money?

Jamie Banks	Jessica Watson	Lucy Preston

5. Who didn't expect to have a holiday?

Jamie Banks	Jessica Watson	Lucy Preston

LIVEWORKSHEETS