

UNIT 5: PAST PROGRESSIVE / DISASTERS (Voices 2 – Macmillan)

Complete the texts with the past continuous forms of the verbs in brackets:

A volcano appears

In 1943, a farmer in Mexico (1) _____ (work) when he saw a large hole appear in his field. Smoke (2) _____ (come) out of the ground and there was a bad smell of eggs. He didn't know where his family were, but everyone was in danger. Soon, ash (3) _____ (erupt) out of the ground and everybody (4) _____ (run) away from the new volcano, because it (5) _____ (grow) bigger. After a week there was a cone 1000 metres high.

The Story of Pompeii



In the Roman city of Pompeii, there was a terrible volcanic eruption in 79 AD. Lava and dangerous gases (1) _____ (come) out of the volcano. All the people (2) _____ (run) away from the town. They (3) _____ (cover) their mouths. The volcano destroyed the city in 1748, an archaeologist (4) _____ (work) in Pompeii, and he discovered some of the victims. They (5) _____ (lie) on the ground. They (6) _____ (try) to escape, but they didn't survive.

LISTENING

Listen and fill in the gaps with the **PAST CONTINUOUS** of these verbs:

NEWS IN BRIEF

ISLAND BURNING

Firefighters _____ (1) non-stop yesterday to control a wildfire on the island of Gran Canaria. While 11 helicopters _____ (2) water to the affected areas, hundreds of soldiers arrived to help the fire brigades.

This morning, winds travelling at 43 miles per hour _____ (3) the fire towards residential areas. 5000 locals and tourists are now staying in temporary accommodation on the island.





SKIER MISSING IN ALPS

Rescue dogs _____ (4) for a missing woman last night after an avalanche in the French Alps. Kerry Holbrook _____ (5) with his brother Charles in Les Arcs ski resort when the avalanche occurred. The British skiers _____ (6) avalanche monitors, and Charles confirmed that his sister _____ (7) a mobile phone. Heavy snow was also making the search operation more difficult.

LUCKY ESCAPE

A 15-year old boy _____ (8) in hospital yesterday after he was struck by lightning in Wednesday's storms. John Molinero and his friend _____ (9) their bikes when the lightning struck. "I heard thunder, and the next moment I was on the ground," John said. He received only minor injuries and doctors believe that the rubber tyres of his bike probably saved his life.



1. Find in the text the words that mean:

<u>bomberos</u>	<u>Estación de esquí</u>
<u>Sin descanso</u>	<u>Búsqueda</u>
<u>Brigadas antiincendios</u>	<u>Golpeado, alcanzado</u>
<u>Hacia</u>	<u>Trueno</u>
<u>Alojamiento</u>	<u>Suelo</u>
<u>Rescate</u>	<u>Heridas de poca importancia</u>
<u>Desaparecida</u>	<u>Neumáticos de goma</u>

2. Find the words in the text related to weather phenomena or disasters.

3. Read the text again and answer the questions:

1. Where was the wildfire?
2. How many people were staying in temporary accommodation because of the fire?
3. Who was missing in the avalanche?
4. What factors made the search operation more difficult in The Alps?
5. What happened to John Molinero?
6. How did John survive?