

September 11, 2001



1 On September 11, 2001, terrorists from *Al Qaeda* hijacked 4 airplanes. They crashed two of them
2 into the "twin towers" of the World Trade Center in New York City and another into
3 the Pentagon (ה"ק ריה" של צבא ארה"ב) in Washington. A fourth plane crashed in Pennsylvania.
4 About 3,000 people were killed in these attacks. Soon after, it became clear that Osama Bin Laden
5 and his terrorist organization Al Qaeda were responsible for the attacks.

6 The planes left airports in different cities on the morning of September 11. Sometime after take-
7 off, the terrorists took over the planes. Some of them were trained as pilots. At 8:45 am, the first
8 plane crashed into the north tower of the World Trade Center. Twenty minutes later, the second
9 plane hit the south tower. Flames and smoke came out of the towers and the people who were
10 working there tried to escape. About an hour after the attack both towers collapsed (התמוטטו).

11 At about 9:40 a.m. a plane with 58 people on board crashed into the west side of the Pentagon in
12 Washington. A part of the building collapsed and about 200 people were killed. A fourth plane
13 was probably going to crash into the White House or the Capitol (כנסת), but a few passengers
14 overcame (התגברו על) the terrorists. The pilots lost control of the plane and it crashed into a field
15 in Pennsylvania.

16 After these attacks on the USA, there was panic all over the country. The White House
17 was evacuated (פונה) and all air traffic (תנועה אווירית) over the country was stopped.
18 Convinced that Osama Bin Laden and his Al-Qaeda terrorist group were behind the attacks, the
19 US attacked terrorist training camps (מחנות אימונים) in Afghanistan one month later.

20 On May 2, 2011, almost 10 years after the attacks, US Special forces found Bin Laden and killed
21 him. His body was thrown into the sea so there would be no grave (קבר).

QUESTIONS

1) What do we learn from lines 1-6?

- How many terrorists there were
- How many planes were hijacked
- What time the planes were hijacked
- Exactly how many people were killed

2) In line 1, the word "hijacked" means:

- flew
- attacked
- took by force
- killed

3) The Pentagon was a _____ target (יעד) (lines 1-6):

- a. government
- b. different
- c. military
- d. terrorist

4) TRUE or FALSE: The hijacked airplanes all left from the same airport. T / F
(lines 7-12)

5) Circle the answer that is true (lines 7-12):

- a. The Twin Towers did not collapse immediately.
- b. The first 2 planes crashed into the same building.
- c. The whole terror attack lasted twenty minutes.
- d. The terrorists took over the planes before takeoff and flew them.

6) The fourth plane did not crash into the White House or the Capital because

_____ (lines 13-17).

7) Give **ONE** example of the "panic" in the US following the attacks:

_____ (lines 18-22).

8) Why did the US throw Bin Laden's body into the sea? (lines 22-24)

- a. They were angry and wanted revenge (נקמה).
- b. They didn't want anyone to visit his grave.
- c. They didn't want him to return.
- d. They wanted people to look for his body.

BONUS QUESTIONS (You may answer in Hebrew)

9) Why do Americans call this day "9/11" and not "11/9"?

10) Who was President of the US when the US army caught and killed Osama Bin Laden?

- a. George Bush Jr.
- b. Barack Obama
- c. Donald Trump
- d. Bill Clinton

11) What is the message of the picture on the first page?

