

Grammar

Complete the text with the correct word. Use one word for each gap.

Surviving the storm

Rescuers were searching ¹ more victims last night after tornadoes struck in Oklahoma injuring 800 people. Entire towns ² destroyed as the storm raced across mid-west America. Today thousands of people are relying ³ emergency shelter, food and water after one of the worst storms ⁴ history.

Survivors told ⁵ they emerged from their basements to find that their houses – and those of their neighbours – had simply vanished. ‘It looks ⁶ if an atom bomb has gone off,’ said Kirk Humphreys, mayor of Oklahoma City.

Worst hit was the town of Moore, ⁷ is south of Oklahoma City. Moore resident Lee Ann Richardson, ⁸ survived by hiding in her storm cellar, said: ‘There was no point ⁹ trying to escape – the only way to protect ¹⁰ was to get underground. When I came out, I looked ¹¹ my house, but it just wasn’t there.’ One tornado was more ¹² a mile wide. Weathermen described it ¹³ a ‘wall of death’, it was the biggest tornado they’d ever seen.

A weekend trip to Moore turned ¹⁴ a nightmare for Chad Harris. Harris, who was inside a trailer ¹⁵ the tornado struck, said he was lucky to ¹⁶ alive. ‘I couldn’t believe ¹⁷ was happening,’ said Mr Harris. ‘The trailer rolled over several times. It was the ¹⁸ frightening experience of my life.’

Nurse Ruth Hensley sheltered under a motorway bridge in Moore ¹⁹ watched the tornadoes pass by. She then helped ²⁰ injured mother who had just saved ²¹ 11-year-old son. ‘The little boy said he flew up ²² the air,’ she said, ‘but his mother managed to catch him and hold him down. Their house was completely destroyed.’

The storms are thought to ²³ reached F5 level – the worst possible for tornadoes. At this level houses are lifted off ²⁴ foundations, cars fly through the air, and trains are overturned.

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