

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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