

4 VOCABULARY & SPEAKING

It's in the news.

A How would you define each of these news events?

epidemic	hijacking	natural disaster	rebellion	robbery
famine	kidnapping	political crisis	recession	scandal

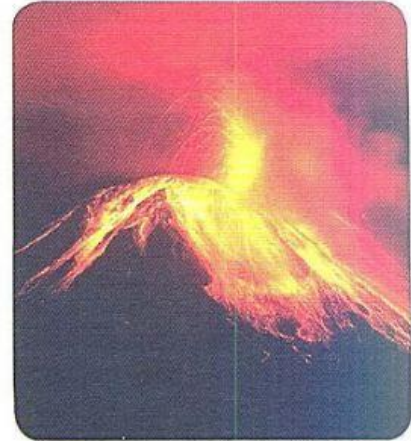
"A natural disaster is something like a volcanic eruption, a flood, or an earthquake."

B Pair work Tell your partner about some news stories you've recently heard. Use the words in part A.

"I saw something about a big scandal on the news this morning."

"Really? What was it?"

"Well, it said that a politician had been arrested for taking bribes."



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5 LISTENING

Broadcast news

A Listen to an early morning news broadcast. What is each story about? Write the correct number.

___ a natural disaster ___ a scandal ___ an unusual family event ___ an epidemic

B Listen again. Are the statements true or false? Choose the correct answer. Then correct the false statements to make them true.

	True	False
1. More people are suffering from TB than ever before.	☐	☐
2. Standard TB drugs are ineffective in about one-fourth of cases.	☐	☐
3. The painting <i>Sunflowers</i> was purchased by a large company.	☐	☐
4. The high price paid for the painting caused a scandal.	☐	☐
5. The hurricane has trapped some people in their homes.	☐	☐
6. Tourism in the area hit by the hurricane will not be affected.	☐	☐
7. The mother left the house to give her children freedom.	☐	☐
8. The children used food to get their mom down from the tree.	☐	☐

6 SPEAKING

Speaking of the news

A Pair work Discuss the questions. Ask follow-up questions and add extra information.

- How closely do you follow the news? What kinds of stories interest you?
- What do you think was the most important news story in the last few years?
- Do you think stories about sports or celebrities count as "real news"?

B Group work Compare your answers with another pair. How are your opinions about the news different?

7 WRITING

Narratives

A narrative is usually organized in chronological order and uses a variety of verb tenses.

A Number the events in this news story in the correct order. Then write a title for the article.

Title: _____



1 Brian Anderson was surfing at a popular spot south of Seaside, Oregon, on December 24, when he felt something was grabbing his leg.

_____ As he was punching the shark, it began to release its grip on his leg.

_____ When the stunned shark finally let go, Anderson swam to shore, dragging his badly wounded leg behind him.

_____ He was pulling himself up on the rocks when another surfer came to his aid and called an ambulance.

_____ Anderson's leg was bleeding badly when emergency workers arrived, so they took him to a local hospital, where he was kept overnight for observation.

_____ In an interview shortly after Brian came home, his wife, also a surfer, said she knew her husband would surf again. However, she didn't know if she wanted her son to ever go back in the water!

_____ Doctors released Anderson the next day, and he spent the afternoon at home with his wife and son.

2 Realizing it was a shark, he punched it repeatedly in the nose so it would loosen its grip.

_____ Anderson said he did this automatically because he'd heard on a TV show that sharks' noses are sensitive.

B Write a brief news story about a recent event. Use the simple past, present perfect, and present perfect continuous to show the order of events.

C Group work Take turns reading your stories. Ask follow-up questions. Who has the most interesting story? Why?