

LISTENING – TAPESCRIPT

The Tall Volcano

You will hear a reporter talking about the situation on the island of Luzon in the Philippines. People living close to Lake Taal have had to be evacuated from the area as the Taal volcano is threatening to erupt.

Reporter:

Lake Taal lies in the huge crater of the Taal volcano. In the middle of the lake is a smaller volcano which has been showing signs of increased activity over the last few weeks. Taal is one of the most active volcanoes in the world. In 1911 an eruption claimed over a thousand lives and in 1965 villages on the lakeshore were devastated by falling rocks and huge waves on the lake. Although scientists predicted the 1965 eruption, the authorities failed to warn the villages and the breakdown in communication cost at least a hundred lives.

After the disaster of 1965, the government introduced the Taal Emergency Strategy. This involved monitoring the volcano for early signs of an eruption and the drawing up of an evacuation plan. Since that time, however, there has been an increase in the number of people living close to the lake, and the government has also encouraged the industrial development of the area. The building of two power stations just a few kilometres away was strongly criticised by environmentalists. In the event of an eruption, these would have to be shut down, possibly for a long period if damage occurs. The closure of the power stations would leave thousands of homes and businesses without electricity.

Last month, scientists noticed a sudden rise in the temperature of the lake. There was also a dramatic rise in the level of radon gas in the soil. Their concerns increased with the discovery of thousands of dead fish, apparently killed by acidic volcanic gases rising from the bed of the lake. As a result, they gave a warning that Taal could erupt again at any moment. The authorities took immediate action. The president put government authorities on a state of high alert, saying that the danger of the situation made it necessary to bring in the army to oversee operations. The decision was made to evacuate an area of five kilometres around the entire lake, and two days ago the evacuation of around 30,000 people began.

The provision of temporary shelter in a safe location for those displaced is the army's top priority, and it is now estimated that about 25,000 evacuees have arrived at makeshift camps. Conditions in the camps are reasonably comfortable, and there are adequate supplies of food and water. But no one here knows how long they will be away from their homes.

ANSWER KEY

READING:

1. toxic plants
2. clinical team
3. logbook
4. perfect example
5. surgery

6. intelligent, incredible (*in either order*)
7. wake-up call
8. abandoned/left, neglected (*in either order*)
9. human team
10. adopt, sponsor (*in either order*)

10 points

VOCABULARY:

1. poll
2. reign
3. barred
4. foundation(s)
5. genetics

6. monastery
7. differentiation
8. height
9. formulate
10. heredity

10 points

GRAMMAR:

1. part
2. to
3. out
4. that
5. each / every
6. hadn't
7. down
8. myself

9. had
10. from
11. with
12. on
13. is being made to study hard by
14. appears not to have been
15. been agreed (that) we will

15 points

LISTENING (award ½ point if all words in the statement are correct)

1. most active
2. falling rocks
3. monitoring
4. industrial development
5. shut down/closed down

6. acidic (*accept acid*) volcanic gases
7. authorities (*accept government*)
8. evacuate
9. army's
10. adequate

5 points

40 points

ROLE – PLAY

STUDENT:

You are an active type of person. You've become a member of several different sport clubs recently and you are involved in different activities as well (volunteering, etc.). You are aware of the fact that there isn't much time left for parties, socializing, etc. That is why your friend is blaming you for the problem. But you feel that your new lifestyle is worth it and you think your friend could change as well. You can still remain good friends.

Your friend talks first.

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ROLE – PLAY

TEACHER:

Your friend has changed a lot. He/she has become a member of several different sport clubs recently and even got involved in different kinds of activities (volunteering, etc.). He/she has no time left for parties, socializing or your friendship. You are blaming him/her for that.

You talk first.

PICTURE-STORY

Based on the picture below,

create a story in which a nice relationship was developed between the teacher and her students due to her personality, friendly approach and attractive way of teaching. At the beginning, though, the situation was much different, and some problems and conflicts even occurred...



Autorka: PhDr. Eva Žitná

Recenzentka: PaedDr. Anna Brisudová

Korektor: Joshua M. Ruggiero

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