

# What an Experience!

by Neville

On a Saturday morning at 6.15am, I was at a rural airport. We got a radio call, "We have crashed."



We got into the utes, went to the crash and people were lying on the ground. The ambulance people were helping the injured.

When the pilot was flying, he saw the electricity cables and he started to put the burners on, so that he could get the balloon higher, so that he could get over the electricity cables. Suddenly the wind pushed the balloon towards the cables. The pilot opened the top of the balloon to let the hot air out. The balloon dropped out of the sky. It hit the ground so fast it turned over on the burners. Then the wind picked the balloon up and turned it on its side.

One young lady had broken her hip; the rest had cuts and bruises. Two customers were airlifted out by helicopter to a city hospital. The balloon basket and the burners were damaged. The basket had a small amount of damage and the burners had lots of damage. Two ladies went to the local hospital and the other three are going well.

It's a good thing that the pilot knew what to do.

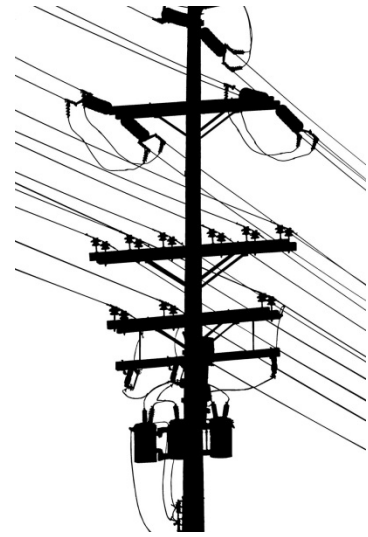
# Discussion

*Without looking at the text,  
tell your tutor what happened in the story.*

Do you recall who wrote the story?

Do you know what brought the balloon down

- was it the power lines ?
- or the wind ?
- or the pilot's action ?



*Now look back at the text and check your answers to the questions above.*

Here are some **more questions**, for which you can look in the text to find the answers:

Where was Neville, when this event happened? .....

Did ambulances come to the scene?    Yes    No    Don't Know

Did anyone die in this accident?        Yes    No    Don't Know

What day and time did the accident occur? .....

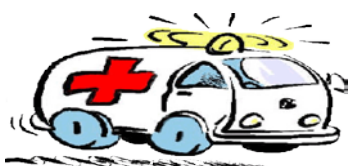
How many passengers were airlifted by helicopter? .....

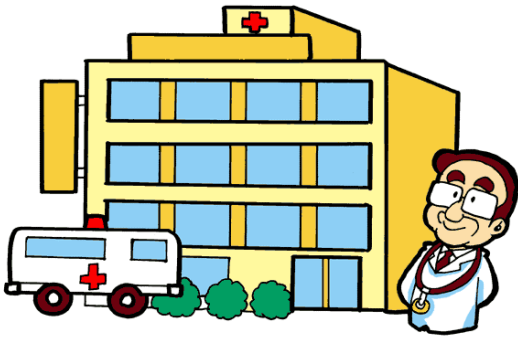
How many went to the local hospital? .....

*Tell your tutor what you think about these points:*

How do you think Neville felt when he saw this event happening?

Who does Neville credit for the outcome, where the injuries were not as bad as they might have been?





## Activities

If you came across any difficult words in the text, discuss them with your tutor before proceeding.

Some long words in this text are:

**ambulance**

**customers**

**damaged**

The longest words in this text are **electricity** and **airlifted**.

You have probably seen the word 'electricity' before.

The word 'airlifted' is not seen as often.

airlifted = air + lifted

Work out which letters go into each white space, below, to make each of the 5 long words (which are above).

	D									
	A		B							
	A			L	I	F	T		D	
	E	L			T				T	Y
					S	T				S

Here, again, are the 5 long words:

**airlifted**  
**ambulance**  
**customers**  
**damaged**  
**electricity**



**Work out which word belongs in each sentence below, and write it in the correct space.**

The balloon ride business has many .....

Injured people can be ..... out of rural areas.

The balloon, the basket and the people were all .....

..... has both benefits and dangers.

The helicopter ..... two customers.

**Now do the same with these shorter words. Work out which word goes into each sentence, and write it in the space.**

Here are your words:      rural      lying      towards  
   pushed      ground      young

The ..... lady had a broken hip.

With her broken hip, she was ..... on the ground.

The balloon and the basket were left on the .....

This happened in a ..... area.

The wind ..... the balloon ..... the cables.

**Well done!**

Now see if you can read this news story, about a hot air balloon crash, that happened near Perth last year. It includes these words:

**paddock clipping kilometres rescue  
sustained injuries condition passengers  
incident attempted rough shouted authorities**

16 July 2016

## **Hot air balloon crashes in paddock after clipping trees near York, east of Perth**

**A hot air balloon crashed in a paddock on Saturday morning after clipping trees near York, about 100 kilometres east of Perth.**

A rescue helicopter was sent to pick up the pilot, a man aged in his 40s, after he sustained head injuries.

He was taken to the Royal Perth Hospital in a serious but stable condition.

There were about 16 passengers were on board the balloon at the time, but none were hurt in the incident.

A passenger said the pilot fell out of the balloon, as it was landing.

"The pilot attempted to land, and couldn't make it," he said.

"We went up again, travelled for about a kilometre and a half, and it came down. It was quite rough.

"Someone shouted: 'The pilot's fallen out.' It lifted a little bit more, crashed into a tree and came to a stop.

"Luckily everyone got out. All the passengers were okay, but the pilot was quite seriously injured."

Police said air safety authorities would investigate.

Can you now **invent a story** about a hot air balloon crash?

You can tell it as a story, like the first text - or as a news article, like the second text.

You can use any of the words from the two stories, or get your tutor's help to use other words which might require some spelling help. Give it a suitable title!

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