CLASSROOM WORKSHEET

# Smoke Detector Warns Firefighters About Eagle's Nest Fire

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NAME _____ CLASS _____ DATE _____ SCORE _____ / 17



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## 1 Read

The number beside each paragraph helps you talk about it.

1 A smoke detector set off the fire alarm at the historic Eagle's Nest. Officials were alerted to the blaze at the mountain retreat. However, firefighters had to wear respiratory protective equipment to enter the burning building. The structure sits at an altitude of 1,834 metres. This height has made it difficult for emergency vehicles to reach the scene. Approximately 200 firefighters and emergency personnel have been sent to fight the fire. A weather camera captured footage of the building still burning in the early morning hours. Snow fell as the fire continued. German police have confirmed that a suspect was detained. They said the incident is being treated as a criminal investigation. Although no injuries have been reported, no one was found inside during the response.

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## 2 Key words

**altitude** /ˈæl.tɪ.tjuːd/ *noun*

the height of something above the level of the sea or the ground

*Pilots need extra oxygen when flying at high altitude.*

**footage** /ˈfʊə.tɪdʒ/ *noun*

a recorded video or film of a particular event

*The news channel showed footage of the crowd at the festival.*

**detained** /dɪˈteɪnd/ *verb*

kept in official custody; not allowed to leave a place by the police or authorities

*The suspect was detained at the border before he could leave the country.*

**blaze** /bleɪz/ *noun*

a large and dangerous fire

*The blaze destroyed several shops before firefighters could control it.*

**criminal investigation** /ˈkrɪm.ɪ.nəl ɪnˌves.tɪˈgeɪ.ʃə n/ *noun*

a formal process by which police look into a suspected illegal act

*After the theft, a criminal investigation was opened to find the guilty person.*

## 3 Grammar focus

### Present perfect

**has / have + past participle**

Use has or have + a past participle (has found, have built) for something that happened in the past and is still important now. We do not say exactly when.

1. Although no injuries have been reported, no one was found inside during the response.
2. This height has made it difficult for emergency vehicles to reach the scene.
3. Approximately 200 firefighters and emergency personnel have been sent to fight the fire.

*Find each has / have + participle. What is the result that matters now?*

## 4 Reading comprehension

### EXERCISE 1 Understanding the Fire at the Mountain Retreat

3 points

*Read the text and answer the questions. Choose the correct option.*

**1** Why was it difficult for emergency vehicles to reach the scene?

(a) Because the roads were covered in thick snow.
(b) Because the building sits at a high altitude.
(c) Because the fire was too large for vehicles to approach.
(d) Because the police blocked all the access roads.

**2** What did firefighters need to wear to enter the burning building?

(a) Heat-resistant gloves only
(b) Protective helmets and masks
(c) Respiratory protective equipment
(d) Full waterproof suits

**3** How is German police treating this incident?

(a) As a natural accident at a historic site.
(b) As an accident during building maintenance.
(c) As a criminal investigation.
(d) As a case that requires no further action.

### EXERCISE 2 Answer the Questions from the Text

*Answer the following questions using information from the lesson text. Write a complete sentence.*

**1** What triggered the alarm at the Eagle's Nest?

**2** Were there any injuries reported?

**3** What natural weather condition was present while the fire was still burning?

## 5 Vocabulary and grammar practice

### EXERCISE 3 Past Simple and Past Participle in the News

4 points

*Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb given in parentheses. Use the past simple or past participle as required by the sentence.*

1 A smoke detector _____ (set off) the fire alarm at the Eagle's Nest.

2 Firefighters _____ (wear) respiratory protective equipment to enter the burning building.

3 German police _____ (confirm) that a suspect was detained.

4 Approximately 200 firefighters and emergency personnel _____ (send) to fight the fire.

### EXERCISE 4 Match the Words to Their Definitions

6 points

*Match each vocabulary word or phrase (1–6) with its correct definition (a–f).*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | altitude | _____ | **A** kept in official custody by the police or authorities |
| 2 | approximately | _____ | **B** a large and dangerous fire |
| 3 | footage | _____ | **C** almost exactly but not completely; about |
| 4 | detained | _____ | **D** a recorded video of a particular event |
| 5 | blaze | _____ | **E** a formal process in which police look into a suspected illegal act |
| 6 | criminal investigation | _____ | **F** the height of something above sea level |

### EXERCISE 5 Put the sentences in order

4 points

*These sentences are from the story. Put them in the order they appear.*

**A** The structure sits at an altitude of 1,834 metres.

**B** Officials were alerted to the blaze at the mountain retreat.

**C** However, firefighters had to wear respiratory protective equipment to enter the burning building.

**D** This height has made it difficult for emergency vehicles to reach the scene.

Correct order: _____ _____ _____ _____

# Answer key

For the teacher

Keep this page for yourself and copy only the pages before it. Short-answer and writing tasks list one possible answer.

## Exercise 1 Understanding the Fire at the Mountain Retreat

1. B. Because the building sits at a high altitude. The text states: 'The structure sits at an altitude of 1,834 metres. This height has made it difficult for emergency vehicles to reach the scene.'
2. C. Respiratory protective equipment The text says: 'firefighters had to wear respiratory protective equipment to enter the burning building.'
3. C. As a criminal investigation. The text says: 'German police have confirmed that a suspect was detained. They said the incident is being treated as a criminal investigation.'

## Exercise 2 Answer the Questions from the Text

1. A smoke detector set off the fire alarm at the historic Eagle's Nest. The first sentence of the text clearly states this information.
2. No injuries have been reported, and no one was found inside during the response. The last sentence of the text confirms that no injuries have been reported.
3. Snow fell as the fire continued. The text states 'Snow fell as the fire continued' describing the conditions in the early morning hours.

## Exercise 3 Past Simple and Past Participle in the News

1. set off 'Set' is an irregular verb; its past simple form is also 'set'. The text describes a completed past action, so the past simple is used.
2. wore 'Wear' is an irregular verb; its past simple form is 'wore'. The sentence describes a completed past action.
3. have confirmed The text uses the present perfect 'have confirmed' to report a recent event with present relevance.
4. have been sent The text uses the present perfect passive 'have been sent' to report a recent action whose result is still relevant.

## Exercise 4 Match the Words to Their Definitions

1. F. the height of something above sea level
2. C. almost exactly but not completely; about
3. D. a recorded video of a particular event
4. A. kept in official custody by the police or authorities
5. B. a large and dangerous fire
6. E. a formal process in which police look into a suspected illegal act

## Exercise 5 Put the sentences in order

B, C, A, D Officials were alerted to the blaze at the mountain retreat. However, firefighters had to wear respiratory protective equipment to enter the burning building. The structure sits at an altitude of 1,834 metres. This height has made it difficult for emergency vehicles to reach the scene.