

PLACEMENT TEST BRITISH PROGRAMME: MODEL TEST

1. READING

Read this story very carefully and answer the questions....

TEENAGER HIT BY METEORITE



Gerrit Blank with the meteorite that hit his hand

On 5 June 2009, Gerrit Blank was walking to the school bus when he saw a ball of light in the sky. It was coming straight towards him – a meteorite! The red-hot rock burnt the schoolboy's hand and hit the ground so hard that it made a 30cm-long hole in the road.

The meteorite crashed to Earth in Essen in Germany. 14-year-old Gerrit told reporters: 'I saw a large ball of light and then I suddenly felt a pain in my hand. A moment later, there was an enormous bang,

like thunder! The noise was so loud that my ears were ringing for hours afterwards. After the meteorite hit me, it was still falling fast enough to make a hole in the road.'

Gerrit took the tiny piece of rock to school and told the story of his lucky escape. His classmates believed him. 'I'm really keen on science and my teachers discovered that the rock is magnetic,' he added. Experts think it was travelling at about 500 kilometres per hour when it hit Gerrit.

Most meteorites don't actually reach Earth because they burn up in the atmosphere. Some of them hit the ground, but most of them land in water. It's extremely rare for meteorites to hit people – the chance is about 1 in 100 million. As far as we know, there's only one other case where a person survived a meteorite strike. In November 1954 a rock crashed through the roof of a house in Alabama, USA. It landed on housewife Ann Hodges, who was asleep on the sofa because she wasn't feeling well.

1A.- Say if the following statements are true or false. Correct the false ones:

- a- Gerrit was riding to school when he saw the light.
- b- The rock burnt Gerrit's head
- c- The rock made a terrible noise when it hit the ground
- d- Gerrit took a big piece of rock and took it to school.
- e- It is frequent that meteorites hit people
- f- Gerry is the only person that survived a meteorite strike.

1B. Now answer these questions:

1. What was Gerrit's nationality?
2. What was Gerrit doing when a meteorite hit him?
3. What did he see in the sky?
4. Where did it hit Gerrit?
5. How fast was it travelling when it hit Gerrit?
6. Why don't large meteorites normally hit land? Give two reasons.
7. Do meteorites often hit people?
8. Did a meteorite kill Ann Hodges?
9. Where was she?
10. Why was she there?

1C. Find words or expressions in the text that mean the same as the following:

- a- Very small
- b- Big
- c- Interested
- d- Unusual

2. Think carefully before you answer this question. You must give a good explanation in your answer.

Do you believe Gerrit's story?

3. WRITING: Write an essay (120 words) about the following topic:

Imagine you win a special competition and they choose you to be an astronaut. Write a short story about your trip, which you take with your best friend. Talk about the problems you both have and what you miss from home and school.....

4. ORAL SKILLS: LISTENING AND SPEAKING