

English Spoken Communication A

Pronunciation Practice

council	英 ['kaʊnsl]	美 ['kaʊnsl]
trillion	英 ['trɪljən]	美 ['trɪljən]
billionaire	英 [ˌbɪljə'neə(r)]	美 [ˌbɪljə'ner]
Carolina	英 [kæərə'lainə]	美 [kæərə'lainə]
institute	英 ['ɪnstɪtju:t]	美 ['ɪnstɪtu:t]
Amazon	英 ['æməzən]	美 ['æməzɑ:n]
Inc (incorporated)	英 [ɪn'kɔ:pəreɪtɪd]	美 [ɪn'kɔ:rpəreɪtɪd]

U.N.

Task B1

Retell a piece of news and then make comment:

How to do

(1) Read a piece of news and retell it within 1:30 mins, including the following information

- ✓ What happened?
- ✓ When did it happen?
- ✓ Where did it happen?
- ✓ What was the effect or result?
- ✓ Who were involved?

.....

(2) Then tell about your views about this pieces of news. Tell your point in one sentence and then explain.

(3) Raise one question at the end for discussion.

Task B1

- ✓ Logic: description, comments and lastly question
- ✓ Link the retelling, the comments and the question with logic markers, putting them in one part.
- ✓ Speaking: Talking to someone so that he/she can understand you. Stop within a sentence.
- ✓ Tell your point in one sentence and then explain. Support your point with examples, statistics, or analysis. Explanation of your point is the most important part of speaking.
Make a specific point that can be argued.
- ✓ Raise one question at the end for discussion.
Specific question that can be discussed.

News

'Unfathomable': US death toll from coronavirus hits 200,000

Retelling:

Headline: The US death toll from coronavirus hit 200,000. It is unfathomable.

Lead:

Questions:

1. When did the US death toll hit 200,000?
2. How did the Americans think about this situation?
3. Why is it unfathomable?
4. Will there be more people dead?
5. What can be done to stop this crisis?

.....

News

'Unfathomable': US death toll from coronavirus hits 200,000

The U.S. death toll from the coronavirus topped 200,000 Tuesday, by far the highest in the world, hitting the once-unimaginable threshold six weeks before an election that is certain to be a referendum in part on President Donald Trump's handling of the crisis.

“It is completely unfathomable that we’ve reached this point,” said Jennifer Nuzzo, a Johns Hopkins University public health researcher, eight months after the scourge first reached the world’s richest nation, with its state-of-the-art laboratories, top-flight scientists and stockpiles of medical supplies.

The number of dead is equivalent to a 9/11 attack every day for 67 days. It is roughly equal to the population of Salt Lake City or Huntsville, Alabama.

News

And it is still climbing. Deaths are running at close to 770 a day on average, and a widely cited model from the University of Washington predicts the U.S. toll will double to 400,000 by the end of the year as schools and colleges reopen and cold weather sets in. A vaccine is unlikely to become widely available until 2021.

“The idea of 200,000 deaths is really very sobering, in some respects stunning,” Dr. Anthony Fauci, the government’s top infectious-disease expert, said on CNN.

The bleak milestone was reported by Johns Hopkins, based on figures supplied by state health authorities. But the real toll is thought to be much higher, in part because many COVID-19 deaths were probably ascribed to other causes, especially early on, before widespread testing.

News

Trump tells UN to hold China accountable for Covid-19 pandemic

Tensions between China and the US spilled out on the world stage on Tuesday as Donald Trump told the UN General Assembly that Beijing must be held accountable for its actions over the Covid-19 pandemic.

The US president accused China of allowing the coronavirus to "leave China and infect the world" and urged the international community to take action, in a recorded message played to the annual meeting of the UN.

"The United Nations must hold China accountable for their actions," Mr Trump said, referring to Covid-19 as the "China virus".

He accused China of not sharing timely information with the world on the new disease and criticised its decision not to stop international flights.

"In the earliest days of the virus, China locked down travel domestically while allowing flights to leave China and infect the

News

he said in a short message delivered at the UN's headquarters in New York, at a gathering that meets each year to address global problems.

“The Chinese government, and the World Health Organisation – which is virtually controlled by China – falsely declared that there was no evidence of human-to-human transmission,” said Mr Trump, who is facing growing disapproval at home over his handling of the virus.

Mr Trump has repeatedly blamed China for the spread of the novel virus to the US, where some 200,000 people have now died.

He has directed his administration to withdraw from the WHO, an independent international body that works with the UN, accusing it of being a puppet of China.

Addressing the assembly minutes later, Xi Jinping, China's president, said Beijing has “confronted disaster head on.”

“We should enhance solidarity and get through this together,” Mr Xi said, urging international cooperation over finger-pointing.

News

over: expressing preference

I'd choose the well-known brand over that one. 我宁要名牌不要那个。

Retell the News

- ✓ Pick out the information you think important or you are interested in.
- ✓ Reorganize the information and paraphrase the language. Of course you will keep the original key phrases.
- ✓ Retell it in the way that will lead to your comment naturally. Then explain why you think so, and support your point by other informations or details from this piece of news.

Talk to your partner. See if you focus on the same details or information.