

NEWS ITEMS (KEY)

TASK 1: 1A – 2D – 3B – 4F – 5E

TASK 2: 1C – 2E – 3F - 4B – 5D

1. TRAIN HITS A TRUCK

The sound of an approaching train but it's not enough.

An almighty crash in Texas as it slams into the stationary truck at a crossing in Midland County.

Large metal pipes are sent flying into the air like straws, scattered (T2.C), as reports say the truck was pushed half a mile before it stopped.

The truck driver reportedly told local media (T1.A) he had stopped on the tracks to give way to other drivers but had broken down and couldn't move his vehicle before the crash happened. He managed to get out alive but 100 gallons of diesel fuel were spilled and a rail crossing sign damaged in the accident.

It took hours for authorities to clear the debris from the Union Pacific Railroad Crossing and reopen it.

2. BUS IN A HOUSE

A group of children took a slightly different route home on their way from school (T1.D) after their school bus crashed into a house in Texas.

The bus was carrying 25 children when the brakes apparently failed, leaving five people injured (T2.E).

Two children on the bus, as well as one child inside the house suffered minor injuries and have been taken to hospital.

The bus was returning children home from Fort Sam Houston Elementary School when it crashed into a house in the military housing area in central San Antonio on Friday.

A substitute teacher and a driver were also hurt. The driver has been hospitalised, but remains in a stable condition.

3. POLICE SHOOT A BOY

The community of Santa Rosa in California is in shock after **a thirteen-year-old boy was shot dead by police, carrying a replica gun (T2.F)**. The area where it happened is out of bounds except for forensics to collect evidence, but events have already been pieced together.

The teenager id-ed by his father to local media **had been sent home early from school (T1.B)**. He had then decided to take a pellet gun to his friend's but never turned up.

His father said when he stepped outside his house, seeing police cars, he never thought it would be his son's lifeless body on the ground.

A police report says two deputies had been on patrol, seen the teenager and repeatedly ordered him to drop the rifle. They then shot him several times.

This is the pellet gun police found. They're often made to look like assault weapons. The death has prompted the community to ask questions and demand answers. One note left by a plastic gun which was also found, urged drug testing.

Even though he had been expelled from a previous school (T1.B), according to friends and family, the teenager had a good sense of humour, enjoyed basketball, boxing and playing saxophone.

4. FIVE MEN ATTACK A STUDENT

A group of men in London have violently attacked a **foreign student apparently because he's not local (T1.F)**.

This shocking CCTV footage released by The Metropolitan Police shows a gang of five Asian men smashing a bottle into the face of **Francesco Hounney who arrived in the UK just three days before (T1.F)**.

The twenty-two-year-old from Florida was on a night out in the Brick Lane area with a friend when the gang started to follow them home. It's not clear what was said but an aggressive argument broke out, leading to the attack.

One of the gang members grabbed the bottle Francesco was drinking from and smashed it against his face. They then chased him across the road, repeatedly kicking and punching him to the ground (T2.B).

Francesco was taken to the Royal London Hospital and had twenty-three stitches to his face. He now suffers from permanent scarring and said he is scared to go out in London alone.

5. DANCING VEHICLE

CCTV from China catches the hairy moment a truck driver dangerously swerves across the lanes on a bridge.

Song Mingtang, the driver, was passing over the Zhoushan Cross-Sea Bridge in east China's Zehejang Province when he braked hard, noticing that he was too close to the vehicle in front of him. He jerked the steering wheel to the left, setting the truck off balance, wobbling heavily he veered left to right and left again before the truck tipped over.

Fortunately, Song wasn't hurt and his passenger only sustained a small scratch on her head, but this footage shows just how close they came to a far worse accident. Not only did they crash on a busy bridge in traffic, but they came very close to tipping over the edge, **a metal barrier being the only thing between them and a drop into the sea (T1.E). A disaster narrowly averted (T2.D).**