

Fifty-eight die in shooting in Las Vegas

Elementary

1 Warmer

Answer these questions about the states of the USA.

Texas

Arizona

Rhode Island

Alaska

Nevada

1. Which is the largest state?
2. Which is the smallest state?
3. Which state has the longest land border with Mexico?
4. In which state is the Grand Canyon?
5. In which state is Las Vegas?

2 Key words

Fill the gaps in the sentences with these key words from the text. The paragraph numbers will help you.

rifle

injured

licence

handgun

mass

weapon

1. A _____ is an official document you need to do something, such as drive a car or buy a gun. (para 2)
2. A _____ is a small gun that you use with one hand. (para 2)
3. A _____ is a large, long gun that you use with both hands. (para 2)
4. A _____ is an object that you can use to hurt or kill people, such as a gun, a knife or a bomb. (para 2)
5. Someone who is _____ is hurt in an accident or an attack. (para 3)
6. A _____ shooting kills or injures a lot of people. (para 4)

3 Find the information

Find the following information in the text as quickly as possible.

1. What percentage of Americans own a gun?
2. How many guns are there for every 100 people in the USA?
3. In how many states do you not need a licence to buy a gun?
4. When did Stephen Paddock start shooting at the people at the music festival?
5. When did he arrive at the hotel?
6. How many rifles did the police find in his hotel room?

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Fifty-eight die in shooting in Las Vegas 9 November, 2017

- 1 Forty per cent of Americans own a gun or live in a house where at least one person in the family owns a gun. For every 100 people in the United States, there are 90 guns. This is more than any other country.
- 2 Each of the 50 states in the United States has different laws but it is possible to buy a gun in all of them. In 36 states, you do not need a licence to buy a gun. You can walk into a gun shop and buy a handgun or a rifle. It is not always possible to buy automatic weapons but in some states, this is also possible.
- 3 On Sunday, 1 October, a man called Stephen Paddock was in a hotel room at the Mandalay Bay hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. Next to the hotel, thousands of people were at a music festival. Paddock had several automatic weapons in his room on the 32nd floor of the hotel. At 10.05pm, Paddock started shooting at the people at the music festival. He continued shooting for almost ten minutes. When he finally stopped shooting, 58 people were dead and 489 were injured. Paddock was also dead. He killed himself before the police entered his hotel room.
- 4 Paddock arrived at the hotel on 25 September. He took more than ten suitcases into his hotel room during the days before the shooting. When police entered his hotel room, they found 22 rifles and one handgun. They still do not know why Paddock wanted to kill so many people. The shooting was the worst mass killing by one person in American history.
- 5 President Obama wanted to change the gun laws in the United States to make it more difficult for people to buy them. President Trump has not said that he wants to do this.

4 Comprehension check

Match the beginnings to the endings to make statements about the text.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. It is possible to buy a gun ... | a. ... near the Mandalay Bay hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. |
| 2. You do not need a licence ... | b. ... injured 489 other people. |
| 3. Thousands of people were at a music festival ... | c. ... in all 50 states in the USA. |
| 4. During the days before the shooting, ... | d. ... to make it more difficult for people to buy guns. |
| 5. Paddock killed 58 people and ... | e. ... Stephen Paddock took more than ten suitcases into his hotel room. |
| 6. President Obama wanted ... | f. ... to buy a gun in more than half of the states. |

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5 Chunks

Rearrange the words to make phrases from the text.

1. other any than country more
2. 32nd on hotel the of floor the
3. music the festival people at the
4. need a not licence do you
5. always not is possible it
6. least family one at person the in

6 Two-word phrases

Match the words in the left-hand column with the words in the right-hand column to make expressions from the text.

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| 1. automatic | a. festival |
| 2. music | b. room |
| 3. gun | c. weapons |
| 4. hotel | d. laws |

7 Word stress

Put these words from the text into two groups according to their stress.

licence

hotel

injured

arrived

police

person

A 0 o	B o 0

8 Discussion

- Is it a good idea to allow everyone to buy a gun? Why? Why not?
- Who should be allowed to use guns?

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KEY

1 Warmer

1. Alaska
2. Rhode Island
3. Texas
4. Arizona
5. Nevada

2 Key words

1. licence
2. handgun
3. rifle
4. weapon
5. injured
6. mass

3 Find the information

1. 40%
2. 90
3. 36
4. at 10.05pm (on 1 October)
5. on 25 September
6. 22

4 Comprehension check

1. c
2. f
3. a
4. e
5. b
6. d

5 Chunks

1. more than any other country
2. on the 32nd floor of the hotel
3. the people at the music festival
4. you do not need a licence
5. it is not always possible
6. at least one person in the family

6 Two-word phrases

1. c
2. a
3. d
4. b

7 Word stress

A 0 0	B o 0
licence	hotel
injured	arrived
person	police