WORKSHEET - THE MEDIA (michelle)

TERRORIST ATTACKS IN THE USA

1. Time and tenses. Study these 4 pieces of news updates. Jot down the differences you find and write similar pieces.

BREAKING NEWS Part of the World Trade Centre has collapsed after a hijacked plane crashed into it

A World Trade Centre tower has collapsed after a hijacked plane crashed into it

LIVE Both World Trade Centre towers have collapsed after two planes crashed into them

[Hours later...] Two World Trade Centre towers collapsed after two hijacked planes had crashed into them

2. False friends. Translate the following text. What does "tremendo" mean in Spanish? What do you think it means in English? How would you translate now "tremendous"?

BREAKING NEWS The Mayor of New York says "a tremendous number of people have died in the attacks"

3. Read the next caption. How do journalists protect the confidentiality of their sources? If you were a journalist, what other expressions would you use?

BREAKING NEWS Reports say five floors of the Pentagon have collapsed and it is still on fire

4. The passive. The following sentence is in the present continuous, passive. How would you write the same sentence in the present perfect, passive?

BREAKING NEWS Buildings are being evacuated in Chicago after explosions in New York and Washington In what passive tenses are the following statements?

Freedom has been attacked and freedom will be defended (Bush, September 11, 2001)

Services will be restored as soon as possible (Local NY authority, same day)

The following are headlines, which means some words are missing... Can you complete the sentences?
On the same day as it happens the following headlines appear on TV.

200 firefighters dead 78 police officers missing blood donors needed WTC towers destroyed by hijacked planes Pentagon hit and set on fire

6. Can you write a short article using the information in the captions? What title would you choose?



- 7. I nvestigative Journalism. Here are a couple of questions about the piece of news we have been working in. Have you got any answers?
 - How long did the hijacked planes take to divert their route and hit their target?
 - Weren't air-traffic controllers aware of this situation? Why?