

## 1 Interview with a female firefighter (Gap fill)

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### 1.1 Aufgabe

Listen to a radio interview with Holly, a female firefighter. While listening, fill in the gaps with information from the text using 1 to 3 words or numbers. There is an example (0) at the beginning.

(0) In the North Park Fire Department there are 75 firefighters.

- (1) To get into the academy, Holly had to prepare for \_\_\_\_\_.
- (2) A firefighter has to be able to \_\_\_\_\_ another person.
- (3) Holly didn't have time to meet her \_\_\_\_\_ during the training.
- (4) At first, she \_\_\_\_\_ almost every night until she fell asleep.
- (5) Now she has \_\_\_\_\_ female colleagues at North Park Fire Department.
- (6) Holly thinks that the best thing about her job is that she can \_\_\_\_\_.
- (7) She never feels left alone because her team is like a \_\_\_\_\_.

Link zur Audiodatei:

[http://www.isb.bayern.de/download/17445/01\\_interview\\_with\\_a\\_female\\_firefighter.mp3](http://www.isb.bayern.de/download/17445/01_interview_with_a_female_firefighter.mp3)

### 1.3 Transkript

Peter	I'm Peter Smith and we are here at North Park Studios with Holly Lindbergh. She is one of 75 firefighters in the North Park Fire Department. Holly, I'd like to ask you a couple of questions to help our listeners get to know you and your job a little bit better. Could you tell us something about how you became a firefighter?
Holly	Well, the application process was hard. To get into the fire fighter academy I had to prepare myself for a whole year. I tried to learn as much as I could going online, talking to people, visiting our local fire station and getting them to show me everything. I found out that mental and physical strength were important. They told me that as a firefighter you had to be able to carry a person weighing 60 kilos for 10 metres. At the beginning I couldn't even lift 20 kilos. But I worked at it. And in the end I got into the academy.
Peter	What about the training at the academy?
Holly	The training took three-and-a-half months. And it was very exhausting. I really had to focus all my energy and attention on the training and I didn't have time for anything else. I hardly ever saw my friends and my family during that time. Another problem was that I noticed that the guys didn't accept me – being just a woman, you know. They told me again and again that girls were too weak and not cool enough to handle dangerous situations. At first I cried myself to sleep almost every night. But finally I learned to cope with it and became a qualified firefighter just like all the guys. And now I am one of only three female firefighters in the North Park Fire Department.
Peter	You have been a firefighter for more than ten years now. What is it like being a female firefighter?
Holly	I love my job. Every day I wake up and I'm excited to go to work. And getting called to a fire can be really challenging but the idea of possibly saving somebody's life is worth all the effort. And there are lots of calls involving kids that we go to. As a female and as a mum, I feel more comfortable in these situations than the guys.
Peter	How do you get along with your male colleagues?
Holly	At my fire station, I have always been on the same level as the guys and I am expected to do exactly the same things. These guys are great, they are funny. We are laughing all the time, they are like a second family. The team-work is fantastic, I never feel I'm left alone. And they would never tell me that I'm not good enough because I'm a woman.
Peter	Holly, thank you very much for coming in and giving us an insight into a firefighter's work.
Holly	You're very welcome, Peter.

### 1.4 Lösungen

- (1) a (whole) year
- (2) carry
- (3) family and friends
- (4) cried
- (5) 2 / two
- (6) save lives / somebody's life
- (7) (second) family

