

EMERGENCY 911

Transcripts of emergency telephone calls made to dispatchers during the Columbine school shooting.

IN THE LIBRARY

The teacher is hiding in the library while trying to get assistance by phoning 911.

Teacher: Yes, I'm a teacher at Columbine High School and there is a student here with a gun. He just shot out a window. I believe, um, I'm at Columbine High School. I don't know what's in my shoulder. If it was just some glass. I don't know what's going on.

Dispatcher: Has anyone been injured, ma'am?

Teacher: I am, yes! And the school is in a panic and I'm in the library. I've got students down. Kids under the table! My kids are screaming, under the table, kids, and my teachers are trying to take control of things. We need police here.

Dispatcher: OK, OK, we're getting them. Who is the student, ma'am?

Teacher: I don't know who the student is. I saw a student outside ... I said what was going on out there. (Talking to students) I don't think that's a really good idea. (Back to dispatcher) And we were waiting to see what was going on. He turned the gun straight at us and shot and my God, the window went out and the kid standing there with me, I think he got hit.

Dispatcher: OK, we got help on the way, ma'am.

Teacher: Oh God! Oh God! Kids, just stay down. Do we know where he's at? I'm in the library. He's upstairs. He's right outside of here. He's outside this hall. There are lines of people ... Kids, just stay down! Do we know where he's at? He's outside in the hall. There's alarms and things going off and smoke. (Yelling): My God, smoke is coming into this room. I've got the kids under a table. I don't know what's happening in the rest of the building.

IN THE SCIENCE AREA

A teacher is calling 911 for help, while his students are trying to save the life of one of his fellow colleagues.

Teacher: There are about twenty to thirty students and faculty members there. They've got the rooms locked up. The kids who are running with the shotguns also have Molotov-type cocktail bombs. ... One of the faculty is injured; he was shot in the jaw. And they are having very much difficulty in controlling the bleeding.

Dispatcher: OK, so he was shot in the jaw?

Teacher: Yes.

Dispatcher: OK, where is he now?

Teacher: He is in science room number three.

Dispatcher: Are they applying some pressure to the jaw area?

Teacher: Yes, they are.

Dispatcher: Is he breathing?

Teacher: Yes, he is. They've got him elevated ... the best they can. They've got some Band-Aids. They're not Band-Aids, but they have cloth ... to try to control the bleeding. But they are having difficulty stopping the bleeding. He's bleeding out of the mouth.

Dispatcher: Don't let him close his eyes....

1 IN PAIRS: PAIR READING

Focus on pronunciation and intonation.
Try to make the dialogue come alive.

2 IN PAIRS: A 911 CALL

Search the Internet for information on the
Columbine school shooting.
Write your own 911 call. Dramatize it.



BREAKING NEWS



VOICE OF MIKE BROOKS
SECURITY ANALYST

2:15p

ENT TOLD REPORTERS, ADDING THAT THE FATALITY FIGURE IS