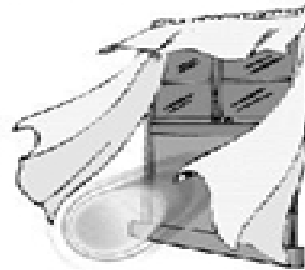


Ball of Lightning!

My name is Enrique (Henry) Coll. I now live in Canada since 1969, but I was born and raised in Uruguay, a small country in South America.

It was a nice spring afternoon and my family and I had had some showers with moderate thunder, but everything was warm and calm and there was a little bit of sunshine through the clouds. Two of my cousins and I were sitting in the living-room of my uncle's farm house having something to eat in the afternoon. My aunt made some toast for us and prior to that, she had ironed some clothes with the electric iron.

Suddenly, it was windy and stormy and there were some lightnings but we weren't afraid of them. My cousins and I were just about to get up from the sofa where we were watching TV and walk to the kitchen to sit down and eat when all of a sudden, a ball of fire, the size of a soccer ball and yellowish orange in color entered through the open kitchen window.



It was hissing very loudly and it moved in a zig/zag/ fashion across the room until it hit the water faucet's in the kitchen. I heard a loud bang. About two seconds later, it disappeared under the front door.

After that, it began to rain heavily but there were no more lightnings or thunders. Then we realised that the TV was burned, many outlets of the house were charred and also the electric iron was smoking and burned.

The wall was opened-up with a big crack. We did not know what had happened but when my uncle commented this with some people, he was told that the house had been hit by a GENTELLA, which is the name that they are known in Spanish.

Comprehension activity:

According to the reading "A Ball of lightning" write T (true) and F (false) for the following statements. Justify the false ones.

- a- and it moved in a zig/zag/ fashion. (.....)
- b- A ball of fire entered through the window. (.....)
- c- My cousin and I were in the kitchen. (.....)
- d- two of my cousins sat in the living-room. (.....)
- e- My uncle commented this with my mother. (.....)
- f- My aunt made some toast for us. (.....)
- g- The lightning was a thunder (.....)
- h- The story was about a lightning (.....)