

Name: _____

Conquering Everest

by Kimberly M. Hutmacher

Mount Everest is the tallest mountain on Earth. Its peak is located on the border between Nepal and Tibet in China. It is part of the great Himalayan Mountain range.

For many years, climbers tried and failed to reach the summit of Mount Everest. In 1953, the British put everything they had into giving it one more try. They hoped that their climbers would reach the top in time for the coronation of Queen Elizabeth.



Ten different climbers from all over the world were chosen to make the trek. In April and May, supplies were relayed up the mountain, and camps were set up every 1,000 to 2,000 feet.



On May 29, 1953, two of the climbers set out for the summit from their camp at 27,900 feet. On that morning, Edmund P. Hillary (from New Zealand) and Tenzig Norgay (from Nepal) accomplished one of the greatest climbing feats ever. They were the first to reach the summit of Mount Everest.

When they returned home, journalists kept asking the two men who reached the summit first. Each time they were asked, the response was the same: "We reached it together, as a team."

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1. What is this passage mostly about?
- a. the first people who climbed on Mount Everest
 - b. the location of Mount Everest
 - c. the first climbers to reach the top of Mount Everest
 - d. the first time Queen Elizabeth climbed Mount Everest

2. How many years ago did this story take place?
Show your work in the space to the right.

3. Read the following sentence from the article and choose the meaning for the underlined word. Use a dictionary if you don't know the answer.

They hoped that their climbers would reach the top before the coronation of Queen Elizabeth.

- a. birth
- b. special feast held by a king or queen
- c. birthday celebration
- d. ceremony for crowning a king or queen

4. Where is Mount Everest Located?

- a. in Asia
- b. in Western Europe
- c. in North America
- d. in South America



5. Which sentence is an opinion?
- a. On May 29, 1953, two climbers reached the summit of Mount Everest.
 - b. For many years, climbers had tried to reach the summit of Mount Everest.
 - c. Mount Everest is part of the great Himalayan Mountain range.
 - d. Edmund P. Hillary and Tenzig Norgay accomplished one of the greatest climbing feats ever.

6. Do we know the name of the first person to reach the summit of Mount Everest? Explain.

Name: _____



Conquering Everest

Vocabulary Activity

Fill in the missing letters to create a word from the article.
Then, write the full word on the line.

1. ___ u ___ i ___

clue: top of a mountain

1. _____

2. ___ ___ t ___ h

clue: from the United Kingdom

2. _____

3. ___ r ___ ___

clue: journey on foot

3. _____

4. ___ ___ t s

clue: acts of skill, strength, or courage

4. _____

5. ___ ___ o ___ ___ ___ n

clue: crowning of a queen or king

5. _____

6. ___ p ___ ___

clue: country in South Asia

6. _____

7. ___ ___ a ___ e d

clue: passed something along from one person to another

7. _____

ANSWER KEY

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Show your work in the space to the right.

Answer will change, depending on current year.

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6. Do we know the name of the first person to reach the summit of Mount Everest? Explain.

No, we do not know the name of the first person to reach the top. They told reporters they reached the summit together as a team.

ANSWER KEY



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Vocabulary Activity

Fill in the missing letters to create a word from the article.
Then, write the full word on the line.

1. s u m m i t

clue: top of a mountain

1. summit

2. B r i t i s h

clue: from the United Kingdom

2. British

3. t r e k

clue: journey on foot

3. trek

4. f e a t s

clue: acts of skill, strength, or courage

4. feats

5. c o r o n a t i o n

clue: crowning of a queen or king

5. coronation

6. N e p a l

clue: country in South Asia

6. Nepal

7. r e l a y e d

clue: passed something along from one person to another

7. relayed