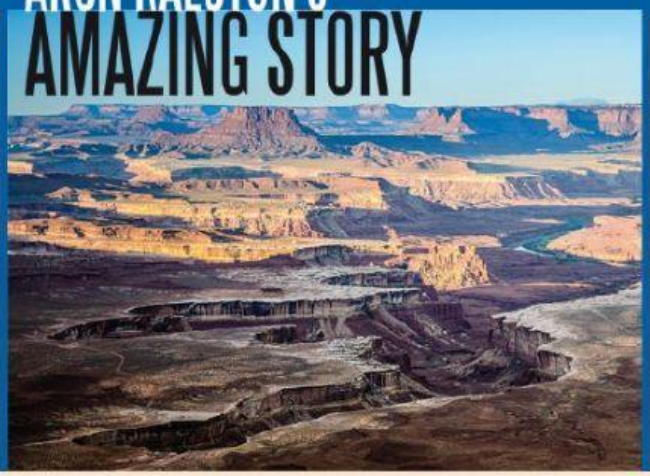
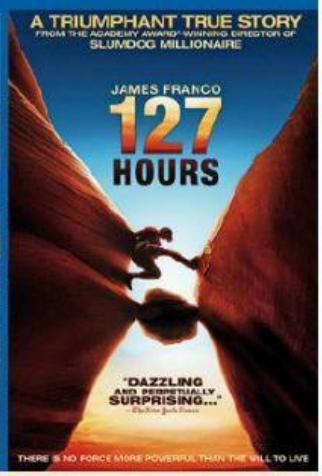
UNIT 6 B

READING

ARON RALSTON'S AMAZING STORY





Aron Ralston is an experienced climber, but one day in 2003, he forgot a few basic rules, and a day in the desert turned into a nightmare that lasted nearly a week. That particular day, he went rock climbing in Blue John Canyon in Utah, U.S. It's a very beautiful place and it's very [1]**remote**, a long drive from the nearest town. The problems began when he didn't tell anyone where he was going, so nobody knew he was there.

Activar Window

A few hours later, he was climbing in the canyon when suddenly a big rock fell and trapped his right hand against the canyon wall. Trying not to panic, he pulled with his left arm and pushed with his feet, too, but he couldn't move the rock even one centimeter. He was [2]**stuck** and alone, as well.

Activar Window

He had left his phone in his car, so he couldn't call for help. He tried shouting [3]**loudly**, but there was nobody to hear him. In his bag, there was a small bottle of water, two burritos and some chocolate—enough food for a short walk. Waiting for help day after day, he ate his food and drank the water slowly, but no help came. He [4]**realized** he was probably going to die and recorded video messages for his family on a camera.

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After five days, all of his food and water were gone. That night, he had a strange dream and saw a small boy who was his future son. He woke up at [5]**dawn** the following morning and he knew what he had to do. The only way to escape was to cut off his hand.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

First, he broke his arm, and then he used a small knife to remove his hand. It took an hour and was extremely painful. He used a small first-aid kit on the [6]**wound**, but he was losing a lot of blood. He managed to climb down the canyon and walked slowly toward his car. [7]**Eventually**, he met a Dutch family who gave him food and [8]**hurried** to find help. Soon after, a helicopter arrived to rescue him.

Activar Windo

Aron wrote a book about his experience, and director Danny Boyle made the story into a movie. Seven years after the accident, Aron had a son named Leo, and today he still goes climbing. He also gives talks about his adventure to help other people.

Activar Windo

Read the safety advice and guess which three mistakes Aron made. Read the text quickly and check your answers.

BLUE JOHN CANYON: SAFETY ADVICE

1 Always tell someone where you are going to climb.
2 Only climb here if you are an experienced climber.
3 Pack at least three liters of water and lots of food.
4 Take a knife and a first-aid kit for emergencies.
5 Always take a cell phone to call for help.

Read the text again. Order the events from 1–8.

a ☐ He wrote a book.
b ☐ A helicopter rescued him.
c ☐ He cut off his hand.
d ☐ He ran out of food and water.
e ☐ A rock fell and trapped his hand.
f ☐ He started climbing in the canyon.
g ☐ In a dream, he saw a little boy.
h ☐ He had a son named Leo.

Skill **guessing the meaning of words from context**

You can sometimes guess the meaning of a word you don't know without using a dictionary.

- Look at the words before and after it to identify what type of word it is (noun, adjective, verb, adverb, etc.).
- Read the whole sentence carefully and guess what the word means.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

A Read the Skill box. Look at words 1–8 in the text and identify what type of words they are: *noun, adjective, verb,* or *adverb*. Can you guess what they mean?

1 remote _____
2 stuck _____
3 loudly _____
4 realized _____
5 dawn _____
6 wound _____
7 eventually _____
8 hurried _____

B Match definitions a–h with words 1–8 to check if you guessed correctly.

a a large cut or injury ☐
b far away ☐
c the first light of the day ☐
d moved quickly ☐
e with lots of sound ☐
f after some time ☐
g understood a fact ☐
h unable to move ☐

LIVEWORKSHEETS