

Lesson Five

Reading

1 Look at the photographs. What are the men doing?

2 Listen and read. 92

Everest Expeditions

Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world. It is named after George Everest, the first person to record its location and height.

The first people to climb to the top of Mount Everest were Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay.



Tenzing was a mountain climber from Nepal and Hillary was an explorer from New Zealand. They were part of a large expedition including 362 porters and 20 guides.

The expedition started in March 1953. It took the team many weeks to get close to the top of the mountain. Some of the climbers had to give up when their equipment didn't work and they couldn't get enough oxygen, but Hillary and Tenzing continued the expedition.

There was heavy snow and freezing winds, but by 28th May, Hillary and Tenzing were near the summit. They slept in a tent that night.

The next morning, Hillary's boots were frozen solid outside the tent! It took two hours to melt the ice and get the boots warm. Hillary and Tenzing climbed the last part of the mountain. They used ice axes to pull themselves up the icy rocks. On 29th May, they reached the summit. They stood on the highest point on Earth. Then Hillary took some photos and they buried some chocolates in the snow for future climbers. They only stayed at the top of Everest for about 15 minutes, because it was difficult to breathe. There isn't much oxygen at 8,848m!



Since then, many people have climbed Mount Everest. The oldest person to reach the summit was Yuichiro Miura, from Japan. He was 80 years old. The youngest person was Jordan Romero, from the USA. He was 13.



3 Underline these words in the text. Guess their meanings and then check them in the Workbook 4 Dictionary (page 132).

location height oxygen expedition summit equipment frozen melt

4 Read again and put the sentences in the correct order.

- a Hillary and Tenzing slept in a tent near the summit.
- b A large expedition team started to climb Everest.
- c Hillary and Tenzing buried chocolates in the snow.
- d Hillary and Tenzing climbed the last part of the mountain.
- e Some of the climbers gave up.

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Listening

1 Listen and number. 93



2 Listen again and circle. 93

- 1 Hillary and Tenzing's backpacks weighed 14 / 40 kilos.
- 2 Sometimes the men had to climb walls of **snow** / ice.
- 3 Tenzing didn't know how to use **an axe** / a camera.
- 4 Hillary's friend brought **snow** / soup up the mountain for Hillary and Tenzing.

Speaking



Watch the DVD!

3 Interview Edmund Hillary or Tenzing Norgay.

- 1 How many men took part in the expedition?
- 2 What did you eat?
- 3 What was the weather like?
- 4 Where did you sleep?

How many men took part in the expedition?

382 men ...

Writing preparation

The **first sentence** of each paragraph tells you what the rest of the paragraph is about. It is called a **topic sentence**.

Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world. It is named after George Everest. He was the first person to record the location and height of the mountain.

4 Read the topic sentences and match them to the correct paragraph.

- 1 The expedition started in March 1953.
- 2 Since then, many people have climbed Mount Everest.
 - ☐ The oldest person to reach the summit was Yuichiro Miura, from Japan. He was 80 years old. ...
 - ☐ It took the team many weeks to get close to the top of the mountain. ...

Complete the writing tasks on pages 84–85 of the Workbook.

pages 84–85