

7 Extreme Situations

Reading

A Read the *Exam Reminder*. Why should you make notes about each paragraph?

B Now complete the *Exam Task*.

Exam Reminder

Reading for general understanding

- Remember to read the text to get a general understanding before you do the exam task.
- First, read the text carefully without worrying about new words.
- Then read each paragraph again and make notes about the main idea.
- Finally, think about all the main ideas before you do the exam task.

Lost in the mountains



Josh Linden, 16, had a scary experience last year. During a camping trip with his family, he got lost on a mountain peak. This is Josh's story of his ordeal and how he coped with it.

Autumn in the mountains is a beautiful time; the changing colours of the leaves on the trees, the beautiful mountain peaks and valleys and the chance to be outdoors attract thousands of campers, including my family. We'd been camping regularly since I was seven, and I thought I was an experienced hiker with good survival skills. Last year was no different. We had been planning our yearly camping trip for months. We were going to spend five days hiking and camping in the mountains in the north of the country. The landscape was really beautiful, the sun shone brightly and we spent every day hiking in the mountains and then camping at night.

On the last day, we set out for a final hike. After reaching the end of a long trail, we put up the tents to camp there for the night. However, I'm an impatient person and it was still daylight, so I decided to explore the area a bit on my own. My dad warned me not to go too far away and told me that I should keep the sun behind me and to the left so that I could find the camp again. Unfortunately, I wasn't listening to Dad. I'd heard from other campers that there were deer in the area and I wanted to see them. All I took with me was my camera. I was searching for the deer for about 30 minutes when I saw some animal tracks on the ground. I was sure they were from a deer, so I followed them. I went deeper into the forest, but I wasn't worried – I was certain I could find my way back to camp. All of a sudden, there they were – a herd of deer, around ten of them. I couldn't believe my luck! I watched them for a while and then started taking photos. As I tried to get closer, I made a sound, and the deer turned and ran away. I should have stayed where I was, but stupidly, I followed them. I could hear them in the distance ahead of me and I kept running towards the sound, crashing into trees as I ran, but they knew where to

hide. After a while, I was exhausted and decided it was time to go back to camp. Suddenly, I realised that the sun had gone down and it was now evening. I realised with a shock that I wouldn't be able to get my directions by looking at the sun and I had no idea where I was. I was exhausted. I began to feel panic and started shouting for help, but no one heard me. Basically, I had two choices; I could look for the camp in darkness, or I could spend the night alone on the mountain and find the camp when the sun came up. Choosing the second option, I broke branches off a tree to make a bed that would keep me off the cold ground. I was hungry and thirsty, but there was nothing I could do about it. What a cold, miserable night I spent on that mountain alone.

The next morning, I noted the position of the sun and began walking quickly, trying to find something that looked familiar. Before long, I thought I heard shouting. I stopped moving and listened carefully. Yes! It was my dad calling my name. I shouted back and he soon found me. I can't tell you how glad I was to see him! My dad was glad to see me, too, but that didn't stop him from telling me what an absolute idiot I'd been!

Exam Task

Read the text and questions below. For each question, choose the correct letter **a**, **b**, **c** or **d**.

- What is Josh doing in the text?
 - describing a film he saw
 - persuading others to organise their own camping holidays
 - giving advice on what to do on camping holidays
 - explaining what happened on a trip he went on
- Why did Josh get lost?
 - He didn't listen to advice.
 - He didn't hear the other campers.
 - No one saved him
 - The sun was too bright.
- How did Josh feel when he realised he was lost?
 - very silly
 - very hungry
 - frightened
 - a bit thirsty
- How did Josh survive?
 - by following the deer
 - by protecting his body from the cold
 - by looking for familiar places
 - by finding food to eat
- What is the reading text mainly about?
 - how easily you can survive a night in the forest
 - how easily you can get into trouble in the outdoors
 - how long you need to become an experienced camper
 - how to look for deer in the forest