

# KILIMANJARO

*Read and do the multiple choice.*

My name's Zack and I'm 14. This summer my dad and I travelled to Tanzania to climb Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain. My dad and I have climbed many mountains in Scotland since I was little, but at 5,895 meters, Kilimanjaro was higher than anything I'd done before. Planning the trip took months, including a few weeks training in the mountains of Switzerland.

Over 20,000 people climb Kilimanjaro every year. Some do it because the countryside is very interesting, going from rainforest to snow at the top. Our reason was that you can get to the top without ropes and special climbing kit. There are also few storms on the mountain, but we only learned that later.

Some UK travel companies only take people older than fifteen up Kilimanjaro. I thought this was strange because the youngest person to climb it was only seven. But a company in Tanzania with experience of climbing with kids allowed us to book their trip.

Climbing above 4,000 meters can be difficult because some people get terrible headaches. I was fine, but others in our group were sick, including Dad, so I had to look after him as we got near the top. The other problem was he lost his gloves. His hands got so cold, he couldn't feel them. This was dangerous, so I gave him my socks to keep his hands warm.

It took us six days altogether and it was my best experience ever. I'd do it again tomorrow.

**1 Where did Zack and his dad practice before climbing Kilimanjaro?**

- A. Scotland                      B. Switzerland                      C. Tanzania

**2 Why did Zack and his dad want to climb Kilimanjaro?**

- A. Not much equipment is needed.  
B. The countryside is beautiful  
C. There aren't storms on the mountain.

**3 What problems was there with booking the trip?**

- A. Not many UK companies offer climbing holidays  
B. It was hard to book with Tanzanian travel companies  
C. Some travel companies thought Zack wasn't old enough

**4 What does Zack say about some of the other people in their group?**

- A. They were surprised by how cold it was.  
B. They became ill as they climbed the mountain.  
C. They weren't wearing the right clothes for climbing

**5 What is the best title for this article?**

- A. A difficult trip for me  
B. My dad's first big climb  
C. Helping my dad on the mountain

