

7 Extreme Situations

Reading

Read the text and choose the answer (a, b, c or d) which fits best according to the text.

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. This is Josh's story.

Autumn in the mountains is a beautiful time; the changing colours of the leaves on the trees, the cool daytime temperatures and the chance to be outdoors attract thousands of campers, including my family. We'd been camping regularly since I was seven, and I considered myself an experienced camper and hiker.

Last year was no different. We had been planning our annual camping trip for months. We were going to spend five days hiking and camping in the mountains in

the north of the country. It's an area of great natural beauty. The landscape was really beautiful, the sun shone brightly and we spent every day hiking along mountain trails and then camping at night.

On the last day, we set out for a final hike. After coming to the end of a long trail, we put up the tents to camp there for the night. However, I'm impatient by nature 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 in order to find the camp.

Unfortunately, I wasn't paying very much attention 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 must have been walking for about thirty 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, but they were in their natural environment and knew where to hide. After a while, I could no longer hear them and decided it was time to head back to camp.

Suddenly, I realised that the sun had gone down and afternoon had turned into 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 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 of 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!

- 1 Why did Josh get lost?
 - a He didn't listen to advice.
 - b He didn't hear the other campers.
 - c No one heard him shouting.
 - d The sun was too bright.
- 2 What does 'them' in paragraph 4 refer to?
 - a noises that Josh heard in the forest
 - b other people who were hiking in the area
 - c animal tracks that Josh saw on the ground
 - d the deer that Josh saw
- 3 How did Josh feel when he realised he was lost?
 - a very silly
 - b very hungry
 - c frightened
 - d a bit thirsty
- 4 How did Josh survive?
 - a by following the deer
 - b by protecting his body from the cold
 - c by looking for familiar places
 - d by finding food to eat
- 5 What is the reading text mainly about?
 - a how easily you can survive a night in the forest
 - b how easily you can get into trouble in the outdoors
 - c how long you need to become an experienced camper
 - d how to look for deer in the forest