

Part 4 PET 01, T3P4

Woman: I'm talking to James Sweeney, who's a tree-climbing 1..... He teaches people who want to learn for different reasons. How did you get interested in trees, James?

Man: I grew up around trees, because my mother was a garden designer. I often 2..... in the gardens she worked on, although I wasn't allowed to go up the trees. What really got me into them was that *Mom had a friend who was an arborist – someone who takes care of trees – and he offered me a 3..... one summer.*

Woman: And then you went on a 4..... to learn to climb trees. How was that?

Man: Well *I was expecting everyone in the class to be young and fit*, because I thought you needed to be strong to climb trees. In fact *there were middle-aged climbers, children – even old people!* There was obviously special 5..... to make climbing safe. The course also taught me how to understand trees better. It was so much fun!

Woman: And then you became a teacher of tree-climbing yourself ... What do you enjoy most about it?

Man: It's great to be in the open, although not so much in the rain or when it's very hot. And I like working with people. Particularly teaching those whose jobs involve having to go up trees, like scientists, for example. There aren't so many of them – most people come because of happy memories of a childhood tree-climbing 6.....

Woman: You often 7..... around the USA, too. Why?

Man: I live and work in the north-west of this country, and no-one wants to climb trees there in the winter. So I move around. I've climbed trees in every US state except Alaska! And in other countries – there's actually more interest in the 8..... abroad than here though.

Woman: And you like sleeping in trees, I understand. Why's that?

Man: It's such a great place to get views of the night sky. People say it must be 9....., but you get used to it – it's not that bad really. You can't wake up late in the trees though – even a tiny bird sounds very loud when it's only a few inches from your head!

Woman: You've climbed trees in rainforests too. How is that different?

Man: The climbing's more 10..... – not because the trees are harder to climb, but because you have to move more slowly. It's an important environment, so you need to

be **11**..... not to damage it. There are insects living in the trees too. If
you go fast you **12**..... them, and you're more likely to get bitten.
Woman: Thanks, James... (fade)