

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)