



READING in GEOGRAPHY

MOUNT EVEREST



Mount _____ is the highest mountain in the _____ as measured above sea level (ASL). It is 8848m ASL. It is part of the Himalayan _____ and it lies on the border of Nepal and China (Tibet).

The mountain was originally identified as the highest peak in 1856. At that time it was known only as Peak 15. Complex surveying revealed that the mountain was 29000 feet (8839.2m) high exactly. However, to sound more credible the figure was altered to read 29002 feet (8839.8m).

The name Everest derives from an English surveyor. The term "Chomolungma" had been used by Tibetans in reference to the mountain for _____. Chomolungma translates as holy mother or holy-mountain. The Royal Geographical _____ accepted Everest as the name to expedite recognition of the natural wonder.

The first men to climb Mt Everest were Hillary and Tenzing (English expedition). They reached the summit at 11.30am on May 29, 1953. Controversially, Mallory and Irvine may have reached the _____ in 1924 before perishing. Mallory's body was found 75 years later. A few thousand _____ have now reached the summit.

There are 2 main routes to the top of Everest, the South East Ridge (Nepal side) or the Chinese (Tibetan) side. The climb is done in 1000m stages (approx). After the base _____ (5380m) there are 4 more camps before climbers reach the "death zone". The death _____ is over 8000m ASL. If you die in the death zone, your body will be left there. Altitude _____, wind and weather are the biggest problems. Hundreds have died attempting the climb, 15 in 1996 alone. Mt Everest is a desirable, dangerous and expensive (taxes) climb but other "eight-thousanders" like K2 are more _____.

Some geographers argue that Mt Everest is not the _____ mountain in the world. If a mountain is _____ from its base rather than ASL then Mauna Kea in Hawaii (ocean floor) or Mt McKinley in Alaska (plain) are higher.

COMPREHENSION

REWRITE
- Mountain
Trekker

1. How high is Mt Everest? _____
2. Which two countries share Mt Everest? _____
3. What peak number was assigned to the mountain? _____
4. What name did the Tibetans use for the mountain? _____
5. Who named the mountain, Mt Everest? _____
6. Name the first two men to climb Mt Everest. _____
7. At what height is the base camp? _____
8. Provide a definition of the "death zone"? _____
9. What do you think is the meaning of "eight-thousander"? _____
10. Which Hawaiian mountain is said to be the highest? _____

Reference: wikipedia.org/wiki/Mount_Everest

CLOZE

SOCIETY
SICKNESS
DIFFICULT
EVEREST
MEASURED
ZONE
HIGHEST
WORLD
CAMP
PEOPLE
SUMMIT
MOUNTAINS
CENTURIES

MISSING WORDS

