

Unit 7

Big Adventures

Fields of study:

Tourism, Leadership, Sports

- Tourism is the business of providing information to people about a place they are vacationing in, such as activities to do, places to stay at or facts about the local history or culture. Tourism is now the world's biggest business!
- Leadership is the quality of being good at leading a group of people, such as a team, organization or country. People who study leadership try to find out what makes a good leader.
- Sports are physical activities in which people compete against each other. People who study sports look at the psychology of winning as well as the benefits to individuals and groups who play different sports.

Lesson One

Background information

This unit deals with adventures of different kinds. The first reading focuses on the life of a Japanese climber and what motivated him to take up his adventures. The second reading focuses on various options for adventures, including one that is not physical at all but, rather, an adventure of the mind.



Before you read

Answers

- Answers will vary, but most people would like to have an adventure for the excitement of doing something different and measuring their strengths and fears.
- Answers will vary, but students should give examples.

What are these people doing? Would you be afraid to try?

The people are young sailors on an Outward Bound ship, learning how to sail. They are climbing the rigging to adjust the sails. Students who are afraid of heights would be afraid to try.



Read about it

Answers

- Ken Noguchi is a young Japanese adventurer who is the youngest person to climb each continent's highest mountain.
- Ken Noguchi went to many countries when he was young because his father was a diplomat.

Asian Kids Taking Challenges

This reading is a letter from a girl named Nancy who wants to have some adventures.

The first paragraph introduces her reason for wanting adventure: a life less ordinary. She gives the example of Ken Noguchi as her inspiration.

The second paragraph introduces Noguchi and how he was fascinated with a Japanese climber, Naomi Uemura, who climbed the tallest mountain on each continent.

The third paragraph tells how Noguchi climbed the same mountains between the ages of 16 and 24.

The fourth paragraph gives Nancy's thoughts on adventures she might have.



After you read

A. Answer these questions.

Answers

1. Before he was 24, Ken Noguchi climbed each continent's highest mountain.
2. Ken Noguchi traveled a lot when he was young because his father was a diplomat.
3. Ken Noguchi's hero was the climber Naomi Uemura.
4. Nancy wants an adventure to live a life less ordinary.
5. Nancy might have an easy adventure by swimming in the largest lake on each continent.

Understand what you read:

Homophones

Homophones are important to students because they are often used in place of each other incorrectly in writing. For example, it's easy to write *sale* instead of *sail*, but the meanings are completely different. Read through the explanation with students. Ask questions to make sure they understand. Explain the tips and ask students for examples. You may wish to ask students to try to recognize the meaning of common homophones by context.

B. Write words that sound like these words:

Answers

Answers will vary, but examples include:

1. deer
2. eight
3. four
4. freeze
5. night

C. Fill in the missing words.

Answers

Not all adventures are **intentional** and many end in **tragedy**. In 1990, an American woman's horse hurt its leg on a rock near the **pyramids** of Egypt. That lucky accident helped archeologists find a new series of ancient buildings. A few years later, another young **traveler** went riding alone in the desert and she and her donkey fell into a large deep grave. They couldn't climb out and the woman **patiently** finished writing all her postcards then slowly died of thirst. She was found months later.

After falling in the hole, what do you think the second woman wished she had done?

Answer

Answer will vary, but the woman might have wished she never took the trip out to the desert.

Lesson Two



Read about it

Answers

- Travel is a great adventure because you always encounter the unexpected and have to depend on your own personal resources to react to new situations.
- Volunteering can be an adventure because it involves being in new situations that you otherwise wouldn't get a chance to experience.

What's Left to Do?

This reading is about different adventures people could have if they are willing to try something different.

The first paragraph suggests that an adventure simply means trying something different.

The second paragraph suggests traveling on a tour with a tour guide and many other tourists may not be much of an adventure.

The third paragraph explains how individual travel is more exciting than traveling in a group and gives two suggestions in Asia.

The fourth paragraph shows how volunteering can be an opportunity to experience adventure.

The fifth paragraph suggests that even thinking differently can be an adventure and gives the example of Stephen Hawking.

The sixth paragraph gives a quote by Hawking that explains his life's work.



After you read

A. Summarize the main idea in one sentence.

Answer

Answers will vary, but one example is: Richard Burton (1821–1890) was a Renaissance man who had many skills and adventures.

B. Vocabulary check.

Answer

megaphone

C. Choose the best answer.

Answers

1. b, 2. c, 3. d, 4. a, 5. c, 6. d, 7. d, 8. b

Review the cartoon

In this cartoon, the young man is just getting to the top of a mountain and is surprised to find a family there. Part of the attraction of climbing is to go to a place where not many people have been.



Teaching note

When students read different genres, like the narratives in this unit, a good activity for checking comprehension is to ask them to write a short piece in the same genre. An easy way to do this is to ask students to identify the function of each paragraph and then write a parallel text doing the same thing in each paragraph they write.