

## Mount Everest security guards to stop fights

24th February, 2014



Temperatures can get hot even in the freezing conditions on Mount Everest, the world's highest mountain. So hot, in fact, that fights break out among climbers. One

brawl erupted last April between climbers from Europe and local Sherpas. The free-for-all happened at 7,470m, 1,400m below the summit. It started over an argument about how to fix mountaineering ropes on the slopes. The dispute was resolved without anyone suffering serious injuries. With Everest becoming more and more crowded, Nepalese officials are attempting to nip any more trouble in the bud by deploying a team of security guards. The nine-person team will be ready to deal with any alpine altercations before the climbing season begins in April.

An official from Nepal's tourism ministry told the Himalayan Times website that last year's skirmish raised concerns about the safety and security of climbers on the mountain, especially given that law enforcement officers were days away. He said: "We will open an office at the base camp with a team of government officials, including the army and police personnel. This will make it easy to resolve any conflict." He added: "The presence of security officials at the base camp will give a psychological feeling to climbers that they are safe." He said the security officers could also assist with "medical help, rescues or anything else", adding: "We want to make things easier for climbers."

Sources: BBC / Himalayan Times / Zee.India.com

### Writing

People should never be allowed to climb special mountains like Everest. Discuss.

### Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

temperatures / freezing conditions / fights / climbers / summit / slopes / trouble / season / tourism / safety / mountain / personnel / psychological / medical help / anything else

### True / False

- a) Temperatures get hotter in freezing conditions than anywhere else. T / F
- b) The article mentioned a fight between Europeans and local Sherpas. T / F
- c) The Nepalese are planting trees that are in bud on Mt. Everest. T / F
- d) A 90-person security team will protect Everest's climbers from April. T / F
- e) Nepal's tourism authorities aren't worried about the safety of climbers. T / F
- f) A government office will open at Everest's base camp. T / F
- g) Soldiers and police will help keep the peace among climbers. T / F
- h) The security guards will also help with things like first-aid. T / F

### Synonym Match

- |                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. conditions   | a. sorted out |
| 2. brawl        | b. help       |
| 3. resolved     | c. arguments  |
| 4. deploying    | d. group      |
| 5. altercations | e. conditions |
| 6. concerns     | f. situations |
| 7. team         | g. existence  |
| 8. presence     | h. fight      |
| 9. assist       | i. worries    |
| 10. things      | j. sending    |

### Discussion – Student A

- a) Give three reasons for why you would or would not climb Everest?
- b) How effective do you think the security team will be?
- c) What might the job requirements of an Everest security guard be?
- d) Do you think climbers will feel safe with the team there?
- e) Do you think there'll be a mall on Everest one day?
- f) What would you worry about if you climbed Everest?
- g) What do you know about Mount Everest?
- h) What questions would you like to ask a climber who has scaled Everest?

## Phrase Match

- |                                  |                            |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Tempers can get hot even in   | a. ministry                |
| 2. The free-for-all              | b. in the bud              |
| 3. nip any more trouble          | c. enforcement officers    |
| 4. deploying a                   | d. happened at 7,470m      |
| 5. ready to deal with any alpine | e. with medical help       |
| 6. Nepal's tourism               | f. the freezing conditions |
| 7. raised                        | g. any conflict            |
| 8. law                           | h. team of security guards |
| 9. resolve                       | i. concerns about...       |
| 10. assist                       | j. altercations            |

## Discussion – Student B

- What kind of person does it take to climb Mt. Everest?
- What do you think of fights happening so near the summit?
- How would a climber feel if they got injured in a fight and had to end their climb?
- Do you have a hot temper?
- Should people be allowed to climb Mt. Everest?
- What other problems do climbers cause that you are aware of?
- Is it a good idea to send security guards to Everest?
- Should people who fight on Everest be banned from the mountain?

## Spelling

- the freezing sinioiontdc on Mount Everest
- One brawl pdteeru last April
- The erfe-rfo-lla happened at 7,470m
- The dispute was deeslovr
- edylngiop a team of security guards
- deal with any alpine eoitntcaarsl
- last year's mshiksri raised concerns
- law nofeeermntc officers
- police onrepslen
- security floiicafs
- give a lglocashyicop feeling to climbers
- medical help, essrecu or anything else

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. h	3. a	4. j	5. c
6. i	7. d	8. g	9. b	10. e

## Role Play

### Role A – Politicians

You think politicians cause the most anger. Tell the others three reasons why. Also, tell the others which is the least likely of these to cause anger (and why): rudeness, customer service or English.

### Role B – Rudeness

You think rudeness causes the most anger. Tell the others three reasons why. Also, tell the others which is the least likely of these to cause anger (and why): politicians, customer service or English.

### Role C – Customer Service

You think customer service causes the most anger. Tell the others three reasons why. Also, tell the others which is the least likely of these to cause anger (and why): rudeness, politicians or English.

### Role D – English

You think English causes the most anger. Tell the others three reasons why. Also, tell the others which is the least likely of these to cause anger (and why): rudeness, customer service or politicians.

## Speaking - Temper

Rank these with your partner. Put the things that make you angriest at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |               |                        |
|---------------|------------------------|
| • politicians | • customer service     |
| • rudeness    | • global warming       |
| • TV shows    | • English              |
| • neighbours  | • places with no wi-fi |

### Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	F	d	F	e	F	f	T	g	T	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.