

## Polish climbers in heroic Himalaya rescue

30th January, 2018



A dramatic nighttime rescue has taken place on one of the world's most dangerous mountains. A team of elite mountain climbers from Poland made a hazardous night ascent of the

8,126-meter-high Nanga Parbat in the Pakistani Himalayas. The peak is widely known as "Killer Mountain" because of the number of climbers who have perished there. The Polish team rescued French climber Elisabeth Revol from the slopes of Nanga Parbat. She was reported to have been 7,400 meters up on the icy slopes. Unfortunately, a Polish climber Ms Revol had been climbing with remains missing. The conditions were too treacherous for the rescuers to spend any further time on the rescue mission.

The team of Polish climbers had been attempting the first ever winter ascent of the nearby K2 mountain, the second highest summit in the world. The drama began on Saturday afternoon when military helicopters spotted Revol in distress. The helicopters picked up the Polish climbers from K2 and flew them to Nanga Parbat, where they were dropped off at an altitude of 4,900 meters. The team then made its daring attempt in pitch darkness. Unfortunately, conditions were too perilous for Ms Revol's co-climber Tomasz Mackiewicz to be rescued. A rescuer said: "The rescue for Tomasz is unfortunately not possible. Because of the weather and altitude it would put the life of rescuers in extreme danger."

Sources: voanews.com / scmp.com / atimes.com

## Writing

Climbing on dangerous mountains should be banned. Discuss.

## Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

nighttime / rescue / mountains / climbers / Himalayas / icy / missing / mission / winter / K2 / summit / drama / helicopters / altitude / darkness / weather / danger

## True / False

- The article said the mountain is the world's most dangerous. T / F
- Mount Nanga Parbat is over 8,000 meters high. T / F
- The mountain is notorious for being deadly. T / F
- A co-climber of the rescued woman is still missing. T / F
- The rescuers had been climbing on the world's second highest mountain. T / F
- A small airplane spotted the climber on the mountain. T / F
- The rescuers were dropped off at an altitude of 9,400 meters. T / F
- The rescuers said a lack of fuel made it difficult to continue the rescue. T / F

## Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                         |               |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1. <b>hazardous</b>     | a. sadly      |
| 2. <b>ascent</b>        | b. is still   |
| 3. <b>known</b>         | c. danger     |
| 4. <b>perished</b>      | d. climb      |
| 5. <b>remains</b>       | e. very great |
| 6. <b>summit</b>        | f. risky      |
| 7. <b>distress</b>      | g. height     |
| 8. <b>altitude</b>      | h. died       |
| 9. <b>unfortunately</b> | i. peak       |
| 10. <b>extreme</b>      | j. recognized |

## Discussion – Student A

- What do you think about what you read?
- What do you know about the Himalayas?
- How would you feel if you climbed to the top of Mt. Everest?
- How should you prepare for a Himalaya climb?
- Why do people climb dangerous mountains?
- Should the Himalayas be protected from climbers?
- What's the most dangerous thing you've ever done?
- What questions would you like to ask the rescuers?

# BreakingNewsEnglish - The Mini Lesson

## Phrase Match

1. A dramatic nighttime rescue
  2. A team of elite
  3. the number of climbers who
  4. reported to have been 7,400 meters
  5. The conditions were too
  6. the first ever winter ascent of the
  7. the second highest
  8. military
  9. they were dropped off at an
  10. put the life of rescuers in extreme
- a. have perished there
  - b. danger
  - c. treacherous for the rescuers
  - d. summit in the world
  - e. altitude of 4,900 meters
  - f. has taken place
  - g. helicopters
  - h. up on the icy slopes
  - i. mountain climbers
  - j. nearby K2 mountain

## Discussion – Student B

- a) What do you think of mountain climbing?
- b) How dangerous is climbing in the Himalayas?
- c) What advice do you have for the rescued climber?
- d) What would it be like to be lost in the Himalayas?
- e) Should climbing in the Himalayas be banned?
- f) What training do you need to be a mountain rescuer?
- g) Have you ever done anything heroic?
- h) What's the biggest danger you've ever been in?

## Spelling

1. A aidrtmca nighttime rescue
2. a hazardous night stacne
3. the number of climbers who have hreepsdi there
4. 7,400 meters up on the icy loessp
5. The conditions were too eoarceruhst
6. further time on the rescue nimisso
7. the second highest stmimu in the world
8. yrlimati helicopters
9. an tuitlaed of 4,900 meters
10. made its daring ttepatm
11. conditions were too lreiupos
12. in ermeext danger

### Answers – Synonym Match

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

## Role Play

### Role A – Mountain Rescue

You think mountain rescues are the most dangerous. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their rescues. Also, tell the others which is the least dangerous of these (and why): deep sea rescues, space station rescues or hostage rescues.

### Role B – Deep Sea Rescue

You think deep sea rescues are the most dangerous. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their rescues. Also, tell the others which is the least dangerous of these (and why): mountain rescues, space station rescues or hostage rescues.

### Role C – Space Station Rescue

You think space station rescues are the most dangerous. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their rescues. Also, tell the others which is the least dangerous of these (and why): deep sea rescues, mountain rescues or hostage rescues.

### Role D – Hostage Rescue

You think hostage rescues are the most dangerous. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their rescues. Also, tell the others which is the least dangerous of these (and why): deep sea rescues, space station rescues or mountain rescues.

## Speaking – Rescues

Rank these with your partner. Put the most dangerous rescues at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- burning building
- flood
- hostage
- avalanche
- mountains
- earthquakes
- deep sea
- space station

### Answers – True False

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