

Mountains

Match each of these words with the correct meaning. (A21)

precious	peaks, distance (height)
altitude	seeing something very quickly
hibernate	sleep, hide away
legendary	goes down
glimpses	mythical
descends	very, very special/important

What is special about the weather in the mountains? (AF2) **The air is colder at the top than at the bottom. It's often windy. There's a risk of blizzards. The air is thinner higher up so there's a greater risk of sunburn.**

Why do you think Mount Everest is also known as 'Holy Mother' by some people? (AF3) **Because it's so massive – the idea of protection – it shelters the people who live in its shadow – like a mother. The idea of sacred places might come in here too. (AF7)**

Find the correct numbers to complete these sentences: (AF2)

Mount Everest is **8848** metres high.

Mount Everest is more than **60 million** years old.

210 people have died on Mount Everest.

Why is a glacier compared to a river in the text? (AF3) **Because the ice 'flows' downhill just like water does in a river.**

Give TWO ways that animals have adapted to living in the mountains. (AF2) **Goats have hollow hooves; marmots hibernate. Lizards have antifreeze in their blood!**

Why do plants have to be tough to survive in the mountains? (AF2) **They have to cope with huge contrasts in temperatures. High winds but thin soil.**

Why do roads have to be built in a zigzag pattern on steep mountains? (AF3) **Because if they went straight up the mountain side they would be too steep for vehicles to manage.**

Find and copy one phrase which shows that mountains can be dangerous places. (AF2) **"Even on sunny days there can be dangers." "You need to make sure you're prepared." "One of the biggest dangers in the mountains is from the risk of avalanches." Also any sentence about mountain rescue infers that there are dangers.**

What is unusual about the capital city of Ecuador? (AF3) **It's the highest capital city in the world and it's built on the slopes of a volcano.**

Use the information in the whole text to find out which RANGE of mountains the city of Quito is found in. (AF3) **The Andes (because it's in S. America – this is stated in two different places in the text)**

What must you remember if you're going to do any activities in the mountains? (AF2) **To take appropriate clothing (warm/waterproof) and to let someone else know your plans.**

Some of the words in the text are written in grey. Why is there only ONE grey word in each paragraph? (AF4) **The grey words are the 'key' words from each paragraph. Each separate paragraph deals with a separate/new idea, so these key words are distinct for each.**

Why is it important not to drop litter in the mountains? (AF3) **Litter pollutes the mountainside, but can also be dangerous for wildlife.**

Find and copy one sentence which contains a LIST. (AF5) **"Some famous mountain ranges are: The Alps, The Rockies and the Himalayas."**

Mountains are huge and can be dangerous places, so why does the text say that they need protecting? (AF7) **The text calls them 'fragile' places. Expect reader to show some insight into the fact that huge doesn't = invincible! Wildlife can be easily harmed.**

Find and copy one FACT in the text and one OPINION. (AF6) **"It [Mt Everest] is over 60 million years old." Or any other fact. "It [Quito] is a beautiful city."**

Why are there more facts than opinions in this piece of writing? (AF6) **Hopefully searching for answers to the question above will prove that this is the case. Students should then be able to explain that this is a non-fiction text and that you would therefore expect to find more facts than opinions.**

Choose the sentence below which fits you best. Underline it! Then write a short sentence explaining your choice. (AF6) **Personal response. Expect some fluency when justifying their choice.**

I would like to go to the mountains to try a new sport.

I would like to go to the mountains to learn about the wildlife at high altitudes.

I would like to go to the mountains to see how people live at high altitude.

I would like to work in a mountain rescue team one day.

I wouldn't like to go to the mountains because it sounds dangerous.