

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Climbing the Tallest Trees

Vocabulary Practice



- Match the words on the left with the meanings on the right.

- | | | |
|---------------|----------|--|
| 1. (to) climb | <u>E</u> | A. to put a seed or plant into the ground so it can grow |
| 2. height | _____ | B. a floor in a building |
| 3. story | _____ | C. the result you want |
| 4. branch | _____ | D. things (slang) |
| 5. (to) plant | _____ | E. to use your hands and feet to travel up something |
| 6. cool | _____ | F. good, great, interesting (slang) |
| 7. stuff | _____ | G. the measure of how high something is |
| 8. goal | _____ | H. a part of a tree |

- Use the above words to complete the sentences. Use plural forms and past tense when necessary.

1. My wife and I want to plant more flowers in our garden.
2. That building is really tall. It has over sixty _____.
3. How high is the Statue of Liberty? What is its _____?
4. When I was a kid, I often _____ up trees.
5. Are you planning to bring much _____ with you when you travel?
6. A _____ fell off the tree during the storm.
7. I study business at college. My _____ is to open my own store.
8. Tom really likes that new music group. He thinks they're _____.

- Choose any two of the above words and write your own sentences.

1. _____
2. _____

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Grammar in the News

Climbing the Tallest Trees in the World

- **Complete the paragraph by circling the correct words.**

In the summer of 2016, Jake Milarch and a small group of tree climbers **(1)**_____ to California to climb some trees. That **(2)**_____ sound very interesting – until you find out that some of the trees are the tallest trees in the world. Some of **(3)**_____ are 300 feet tall (91 meters), which is about the same height as a thirty-story building. They are also some of the **(4)**_____ trees in the world. Many of the trees are hundreds of years old, and some **(5)**_____ even two or three thousand years old! Why are **(6)**_____ people climbing the trees? They are climbing them because already 95% of these trees (called ‘coast redwood’ trees) have been cut down, so they **(7)**_____ to save them. After the **(8)**_____ get near the top of the trees, they take small pieces from the youngest branches to plant new trees. Jake Milarch says that, “everybody’s a little afraid of heights **(9)**_____ it’s pretty safe, and once you’re up **(10)**_____, there’s a lot of cool stuff – stuff other people will never get a chance to **(11)**_____.” Their goal is to plant hundreds, perhaps thousands, of new trees. In March 2016, the group even **(12)**_____ 40 of the baby coast redwood trees in England.

1.

- (A) travels
(B) travelled
(C) travel

2.

- (A) isn’t
(B) don’t
(C) doesn’t

3.

- (A) them
(B) they
(C) they’re

4.

- (A) oldest
(B) old
(C) older

5.

- (A) is
(B) are
(C) have

6.

- (A) this
(B) these
(C) them

7.

- (A) want
(B) wants
(C) wanting

8.

- (A) climbers
(B) climbs
(C) climbed

9.

- (A) and
(B) so
(C) but

10.

- (A) they’re
(B) their
(C) there

11.

- (A) sees
(B) see
(C) saw

12.

- (A) planting
(B) plant
(C) planted

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Climbing the Tallest Trees

How Much Do You Understand?



● Write 'T' (True) or 'F' (False) next to each statement.

1. _____ The article is about why some trees can live for a long time.
2. _____ The article says the climbers first practiced by climbing up tall buildings.
3. _____ Some of the trees are thousands of years old.
4. _____ The climbers want to cut down the trees.
5. _____ There are very few coast redwood trees left.
6. _____ Jake Milarch says that it's safe to climb the trees.

Discuss

● Discuss the following questions with your classmates.

1. Did you ever climb trees when you were a child? Why? / Why not?
2. Would you like to climb the tallest trees in the world? Why? / Why not?
3. "It's important to save trees." Do you agree or disagree? Why?

Write

● Choose one of the above discussion questions. Write a short paragraph to answer it.

Headline 'Climbing the Oldest Trees in the World'

Grammar Focus Mixed (includes comparatives)

Level Elementary to Pre-Intermediate – CEFR A2

ANSWER KEY Page 1

My Notes



● **Vocabulary**

- | | |
|------|------------|
| 1. E | 1. plant |
| 2. G | 2. stories |
| 3. B | 3. height |
| 4. H | 4. climbed |
| 5. A | 5. stuff |
| 6. F | 6. branch |
| 7. D | 7. goal |
| 8. C | 8. cool |

ANSWER KEY Page 2

ANSWER KEY Page 3

● **Article**

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. B | 7. A |
| 2. C | 8. A |
| 3. A | 9. C |
| 4. A | 10. C |
| 5. B | 11. B |
| 6. B | 12. C |

● **How Much Do You Understand?**

1. F (*It's about a group of people who climb trees to save them.*)
2. F (*The article says some of the trees are as tall as 30-story buildings.*)
3. T
4. F (*The climbers want to save the trees.*)
5. T
6. T

News Sources:

- <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/mar/14/europes-first-redwood-forest-planted-at-eden-project>
- <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/assited-migration-global-warming/>
- <https://sg.news.yahoo.com/group-clones-california-giant-trees-combat-climate-change-062848290.html>
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- http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/giant-trees-cloning-climate-change_us_57c9362ee4b0a22de095860b?section=§ion=us_world