

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

READING: Climbing the Tallest Trees

Vocabulary Preview

- 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. _____

NAME: _____

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READING

Topic: Planet Earth

Climbing the Tallest Trees



In the summer of 2016, Jake Milarch and a small group of tree climbers traveled to California to **climb**¹ some trees. That doesn't sound very interesting – until you find out that some of the trees are the tallest trees in the world. Some of them are 300 feet tall (91 meters), which is about the same **height**² as a thirty-**story**³ building. They are also some of the oldest trees in the world. Many of the trees are hundreds of years old, and some are even two or three thousand years old! Why are these people climbing the trees? They are climbing them because already 95% of these trees (called 'coast redwood' trees) have been cut down, so they want to save them. After the climbers get near the top of the trees, they take small pieces from the youngest **branches**⁴ to **plant**⁵ new trees. Jake Milarch says that, "everybody's a little afraid of heights but it's pretty safe, and once you're up there, there's a lot of **cool**⁶ **stuff**⁷ – stuff other people will never get a chance to see." Their **goal**⁸ is to plant hundreds, perhaps thousands, of new trees. In March 2016, the group even planted 40 of the baby coast redwood trees in England.

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Grammar Practice

Climbing the Tallest Trees



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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READING: Climbing the Tallest Trees

How Much Do You Understand?

● *According to the article, 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.*

Lesson "Climbing the Tallest Trees"

Grammar Focus Mixed (includes Superlatives)

Vocabulary 206 words
A1 words-78% / **A2** words-11% / **B1** words-4%
AWL words in this text: *goal*
 Vocabulary Analysis by: vocabkitchen.com

Level Elementary to Pre-Intermediate (CEFR A2)

ANSWER KEY Page 1

My Notes



● **Vocabulary Preview**

- | | |
|------|------------|
| 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 3

ANSWER KEY Page 4

● **Grammar (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

Article 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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