

CrossTalk

CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter August, 2017

Adventure Time



Mount Everest

Most English teachers thrive or at least enjoy a bit of Adventure. Why else would we leave our home countries to move halfway across the world. World traveling is a lot easier these days then it used to be but in this month's newsletter I thought we would look at some of the places that can still be seen as true adventures to overcome.

As the tallest mountain in the world, Mt Everest is known worldwide. However while it is still very dangerous, summing it is not the task it used to be. Indeed if you have the money you can pay a small army of Sherpas to help you get to the top and the list of people who have reached the top is too numerous to bother keeping records of. Why not instead look at other less famous but much more difficult mountains. There is Muchuu Chhish



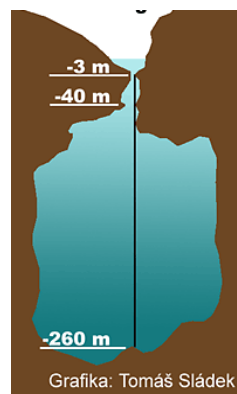
Muchuu Chhish

whose base camp is routinely invaded by stampeding yaks. Or, how about the never been conquered Tibetan mountain Karjiang which hasn't even had an attempted climb since a 2010 expedition ended with the death of the climber.



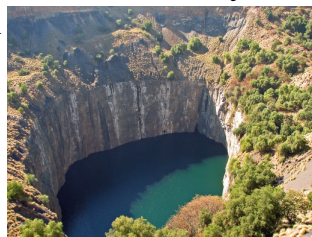
Karjiang

If going up isn't your style then how about going down? More specifically diving down into the fantastically dangerous Bushman's Hole in South Africa. Called Boesmansgat in native Afrikaans, this unassuming pond houses a 900ft prehistoric underground cave. If you



Grafika: Tomáš Sládek

dive all bottom Zone' rules of unravel.



mounts, and there is no light or sound. Scarily going so deep can cause the air in the Oxygen tanks to turn to poison. Some divers have described it as the most alien environment on Earth while many never made it back to the surface alive.

Adventure is always there to find but I wonder, is risking your life to go to the most dangerous places in the world incredibly brave or amazingly foolish?

Article by Matt

Net News

NET LESSONS: Too busy to come to CROSSROADS?

.... Try our *lessons on the net!*

Some interesting facts about Mt. Everest here:
<http://www.history.com/news/7-things-you-should-know-about-mount-everest>

Some Thoughts for the Month



Joshua Says: Back in December 2015 the New York Times recommended in their Net publication, “52 places... untrammelled oases... must-sees” from around the world to readers who wanted to experience something unique and special on their next holiday. Only one place in Japan was represented in that list, the 88 temples of Shikoku. I don’t know if it’s my imagination or not, but have you noticed that the number of tourists in Matsuyama seems to have increased over the past 18 months?

Junko Says: “Painting is easy when you don’t know how, but very difficult when you do.” – Edgar Degas. “It took me four years to paint like Raphael, but a lifetime to paint like a child.” – Pablo Picasso. These two painters who lived during the 19th and 20th centuries seem to have opposite ideas at first glance. But I think both are just saying that real art is not created by learning techniques. Well, what about becoming English speakers? Is it necessary to study grammar first?



Matt Says: Here’s a little tip for everyone at Crossroads. When you are learning new words you are much more likely to remember them if you don’t look them up in your native language. For our lower level students you can do this with pictures or gestures and at higher levels you can try and explain it in English. Happy studying!

Darrin Says: As many of you are probably aware, Australia's seasons are the opposite to Japan's, so it takes a bit of getting used to being so hot in the middle of the year. But in saying that, my home town of the Gold Coast never gets as cold as it does in the winter here, with the average temperature being 15 degrees..... (continued in next month’s newsletter)



Danielle dit Bonjour à tous et toutes !! Je me présente, Je m’appelle Mandcy, je viens de Marseille dans le Sud de la France et je suis le nouveau professeur de français. Je suis enchantée !! Je tiens à vous dire que je suis absolument ravie d’être parmi vous. Comme le disait Virgile, « On se lasse de tout, excepté d'apprendre », donc apprenons ensemble avec un beau sourire et de la bonne humeur !!

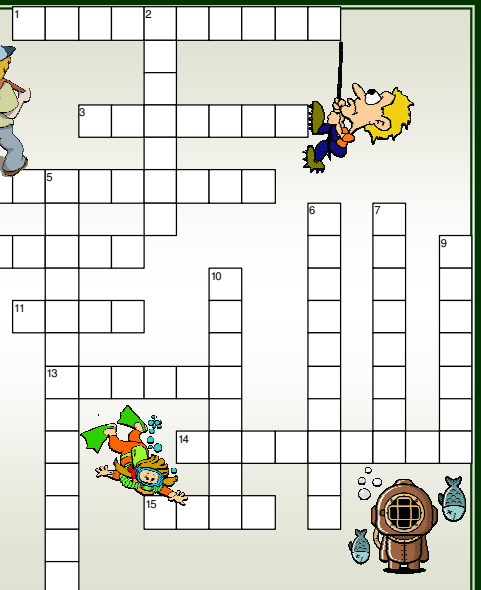
ACROSS

- 1 modest, humble, inconspicuous
- 3 undo or disentangle
- 4 distinct from others
- 8 to go up gradually or continuously
- 11 large, long-haired ox of Tibet
- 12 little, small
- 13 successfully grow and develop
- 14 following an established practice
- 15 a challenging job

DOWN

- 2 mountaineers living in Nepal and Tibet
- 4 getting to the top
- 5 extremely, exceedingly
- 6 running in panic
- 7 to get better than, to solve a problem
- 9 in an alarming or frightening manner
- 10 great in number

Play A Game!



(print version [here](#))

The Origins of some English words

English is a language that is changing all the time and the longer a word is around, the more it is likely to go through changes. Take the following words for example:

BLATANT

What it means now: Completely lacking in subtlety; very obvious.

What it used to mean: A thousand-tongued beast from hell.



GEEK

What it means now: An unfashionable or socially inept person, or someone with an eccentric devotion to a particular interest (a computer geek).

What it used to mean: A circus sideshow freak.



HAZARD

What it means now: A danger or risk.

What it used to mean: A gambling game played with dice.



OSTRACIZE

What it means now: To exclude someone from a society or group.

What it used to mean: A government procedure to literally ban someone from Athens for ten years.

VILLAIN

What it means now: A person guilty or capable of a crime or wickedness.

What it used to mean: A farm worker.



SABOTAGE

What it means now: Deliberately destroy, damage, or obstruct.

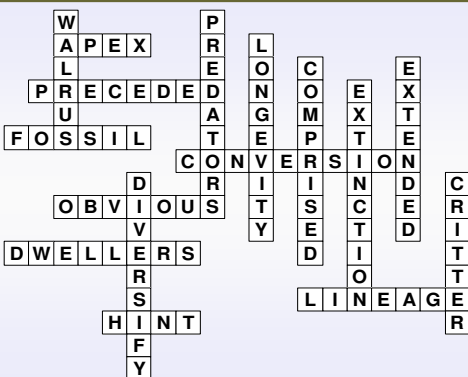
What it used to mean: To walk noisily wearing wooden shoes.



TOXIC

What it means now: Poisonous

What it used to mean: Greek archery.



Last Month's puzzle Solution

ACROSS

- 3 highest point, top
- 7 gone before
- 9 very old and extinct
- 10 change or transformation
- 13 easily understood
- 14 inhabiting a particular place
- 15 descendants of a particular individual
- 16 an indirect suggestion

DOWN

- 1 a sea mammal
- 2 hunters
- 4 of being long-lived
- 5 made up of
- 6 long in duration
- 8 no longer in existence
- 11 make variations in order to spread or expand
- 12 especially domesticated animals



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