

Formal assessment 1: Units 1–3

Total marks: 45

Read the story and answer the questions.

At the top

Climbers tried and failed to reach the highest peak of Mount Everest for many years. In 1953, a ninth British expedition, led by John Hunt, returned to Nepal. Hunt selected two climbing pairs to attempt to reach the summit. The first pair came within 100 m (330 ft) of the summit on 26 May 1953, but turned back after running into oxygen problems.

Two days later, the expedition made its second and final assault on the summit with its second climbing pair, the New Zealander Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay, a Nepali sherpa climber from Darjeeling, India.

They reached the summit at 11:30 am local time on 29 May 1953. At the time, both acknowledged it as a team effort by the whole expedition. They paused at the summit to take photographs and buried a few sweets and a small cross in the snow before descending.

News of the expedition's success reached London on the morning of Queen Elizabeth II's coronation, 2 June. Returning to Kathmandu a few days later, they discovered that they had been promptly knighted in the Order of the British Empire for the ascent. Tenzing, a Nepali sherpa who was a citizen of India, was granted the George Medal by the United Kingdom. Hillary and Tenzing are also nationally recognized in Nepal, where annual ceremonies in schools and offices celebrate their accomplishment.

(adapted by Lois Lubbe)

Question 1

Reading

A Which word describes the text *At the top*? Fiction or non-fiction? (1)

B What does 'running into oxygen problems' mean? (2)

C Name two things that Hillary and Norgay did at the summit of Mount Everest. (2)

D Why is the 2 June, 1953 significant? (2)

Question 2

Grammar and vocabulary

A Find and write down examples of nouns, verbs, adjectives in the text. Complete the table. (9)

nouns	verbs	adjectives

B Rewrite the sentence using speech marks. (2)

It took the whole team to get us to the summit answered Edmund Hillary.

C Make four compound words from the words below. (4)

in	photo	with	some	no	where	graph	body
----	-------	------	------	----	-------	-------	------

D Read *At the top*. Find synonyms for the words below: (3)

attempt _____

last _____

yearly _____

E Write the words in alphabetical order. (1)

cross summit oxygen Edmund second

F Write the words using an apostrophe. (3)

they had _____

we will _____

were not _____

Question 3

Writing (15)

Imagine that you are Edmund Hillary and have just reached the summit of Mount Everest. Write a short letter to your family describing how you are feeling.

Here are some adjectives that you may want to use.

amazing exhausted elated proud tearful