

EPISODE 5
LEVEL A1.2/A2.1

READING COMPREHENSION



IN THE MOUNTAINS



These two weeks we spent in the mountains were really nice. We stayed at a **B&B** (= a small hotel which offers a room and a breakfast)– it was **comfortable** and the food was **delicious** (=very very good). But we didn't spend much time at the hotel. There weren't many people, so we went **hiking** a lot (=we went for long walks) and **took** lots of **photos**, because the views there were **extraordinary** (=special, not standard). Beautiful mountain **streams** (=small rivers) and **waterfalls** (=places where water falls from a higher to a lower point), and strange kinds of trees and flowers... And when we **climbed** (=went up) a **mountain top** (=the highest area of a mountain)... the views were **breathhtaking** (=extremely exciting and beautiful). It all looked magical. Would you like to see the photos?

More contexts for the new words:

The word 'mountain' can go together with many nouns to form phrases:

- There were some beautiful **mountain streams** / **mountain waterfalls** / **mountain lakes**.
- We climbed a few **mountain tops** and saw some beautiful **mountain huts**.



EXERCISE 1

Decide if the sentences are correct or incorrect. Correct the sentences which are wrong.

1. At a B&B you can get three meals a day.
2. When you go hiking a lot, your legs may hurt.
3. Niagara is an example of a stream.
4. If you have a camera on holiday, you can make a lot of photos.
5. 'Extraordinary' and 'breathhtaking' can both be used to describe views.



EXERCISE 2

Use the pictures to complete the questions with key phrases from the text. Be careful about the form. Then answer the questions.

1. Do you like spending holidays



?

2. Have you ever



?

3. Do you usually



when you're on holiday?

ENGLISH IN USE



We use the **Past Simple** tense to talk about finished actions which happened at a specific time in the past.

*It **was** comfortable.*

*There **weren't** many people.*

*We **stayed** at a B&B.*

*We **climbed** (=went up) a mountain top.*

*It all **looked** magical.*

*We **went** hiking a lot.*

*But we **didn't spend** much time at the hotel.*

IDIOM CLOSE-UP



A/ If we don't do this on time, we're all going to lose our jobs! You'll see!

*B/ Oh, come on, don't **MAKE A MOUNTAIN OUT OF A MOLEHILL**.*

If someone **makes a mountain out of a molehill**, they treat something too seriously and make a major problem out of something not very important. In other words, they **exaggerate**.

PHRASAL VERBS CLOSE-UP



There are many phrasal verbs which use the preposition '**up**'. Very often, the meaning of the phrasal verb is connected to the *appearance* of something. Here are a few examples:

1. If someone **URNS UP**, it means that they come / arrive.

*More than 30 people **turned up** at the party.
Why do you never **turn up** on time?*

2. When you **BRING UP** a subject, you mention it / start talking about.

*She **brought up** the subject of budget cuts at the meeting.
Did you really have to **bring this up**? I don't want to talk about this.*

3. When a subject **COMES UP**, it appears in the conversation. It is very similar to **BRING UP**, but in this case you don't talk about the person who started the subject.

*The subject of budget cuts **came up** at the meeting.*



EXERCISE 3

Rewrite the sentences keeping the same meaning and using the word in capitals. Use the idiom and phrasal verbs you have learned in this lesson.

1. I don't understand why you are even mentioning this.

UP

2. Stop exaggerating, will you?

MAKING

3. Jim arrived late, as usual, of course.

UP

NEWS

THE MOST DANGEROUS MOUNTAIN IN THE WOLD

Annapurna I, a mountain located in the Himalayas, is the 10th highest mountain in the world. It is also the most statistically dangerous of the 8,000 meter **peaks**. Since its **summit** was first reached in 1950, Annapurna has been climbed by more than 130 people, but 53 have died trying. Many of these lost their lives because of the **avalanches**, frequent and dangerous on the **slopes** of the mountain.

GLOSSARY

- a **peak** – the pointed top of a mountain, or the mountain itself
- a **summit** – the highest point of a mountain
- an **avalanche** – a large amount of ice, snow and rock falling quickly down the side of a mountain
- a **slope** – the side of a hill or mountain

KEY TO EXERCISES

Ex.1

1. INCORRECT: At a B&B you can get **one meal** a day.
2. CORRECT
3. INCORRECT: Niagara is an example of a **waterfall**.
4. INCORRECT: If you have a camera on holiday, you can **take** a lot of photos.
5. CORRECT

Ex.2

1. Do you like spending holidays **in the mountains**?
2. Have you ever **climbed a mountain top**?
3. Do you usually **take photos** when you're on holiday?

Ex.3

1. I don't understand why you are even bringing this up.
2. Stop making a mountain out of a molehill, will you?
3. Jim turned up late, as usual, of course.