

Nombre: _____

1. Read and answer the questions

A MODERN ADVENTURER

Randolph Fiennes is a modern-day explorer who loves living dangerously. Born in 1944, he lived the first few years of his life in South Africa. When he was 10, he went to school in England where his favourite hobby was climbing onto the roof of tall buildings at night.

Fiennes later became an explorer and adventurer. He travelled up the White Nile in a hovercraft, parachuted onto the world's highest glacier in Norway, and canoed along 4,000 miles of river water in Canada and Alaska. In 1979 he began the Transglobe Expedition, a journey around the world via the North and South Poles. In 1982, he and Charlie Burton became the first men to reach both Poles overland. More recently, in 2003, he ran seven marathons in seven days on seven different continents – and he did this after a serious heart operation!

Fiennes' adventures have involved him in some horrific accidents. On one occasion, he was trying to get to the North Pole across areas of unstable, breaking ice. He was some distance from the other men in the team. Suddenly the ice cracked and Fiennes found himself up to his neck in freezing water. He shouted for help but no one heard him. Every time he tried to crawl out onto the ice, he fell back in again. He began to panic. Just when he thought he was going to die he managed to pull himself out. He kept walking until a member of the team arrived and quickly cut off his clothes, boots and gloves. Fiennes knew he was lucky to be alive.

As he says, few people go for a swim in the Arctic Ocean and survive to tell the tale!

1. What did Fiennes like doing at school?

2. Fiennes had a serious heart operation because he ran seven marathons. T F

3. Why didn't someone help Fiennes to get out of the water?

4. Fiennes began to panic because he couldn't pull himself out of the water. T F

5. How did a member of his team finally help him?

2. Go on reading and complete the blanks with a suitable linking word

Tom Smith is a Fiennes fan. This is _____ he says about him:

"Randolph Fiennes is not only an adventurer but he is _____ a great writer. I started reading his books in 2001, and _____ then I have bought lots of them. I have read most of them, too. Of _____, in many he writes about his trips and the risks he has run in his expeditions. Last week I bought "Living Dangerously", _____ is an autobiography and I have _____ finished reading. Fiennes has also written about Bootie, the dog he and his wife took with them on a three-year-expedition. _____ Bootie started his Polar adventure, he was two years old. He has played and left his paw marks on _____ the North and the South Pole.

"Fit for Life" is his latest book. It is _____ a good book that even doctors read it. It includes research into body types and environmental effects; diet, and basic food control; and guidance on avoiding stress, illness, and injury. I haven't read it yet _____ I haven't had time. I hope to do so soon".

3. Read about Tom and complete the blanks with ONE word only

Tom Smith is an adventurer, too. Two years _____ Tom went to the USA in the winter. He was hoping to practice some dangerous winter sport. There are only two parts of the USA _____ the winter is mild or even warm: the coasts, especially Florida and southern California, and the southern part of the Mississippi basin. Everywhere _____ it gets cold; often it is so cold _____ by the end of November many American states are covered _____ snow. However, recent winters have been _____ cold, with milder temperatures and sometimes the snow has come later _____ usual. When Tom got to Aspen, USA's most popular skiing resort, the temperatures hadn't been low _____ and there wasn't much snow. Tom was disappointed. He had been looking _____ to skiing there, but it would not be possible. He waited for a few days, but then he got restless and decided to go somewhere else. Tom's wife, _____ was with him, wanted to stay in Aspen, but Tom said they should go to New York instead.

4. Go on reading and put the verbs in brackets in the correct tense. When you see a + use a modal

Tom is really fond of adventures. He _____ (always like) a bit of danger. He _____ (jump) off bridges on a bungee cord in Mexico and _____ (swim) with crocodiles in Australia. However, there is one thing that he had never done until last week. Tom _____ (never climb) the Empire State Building in New York, but last week he finally did it! Before the climb, he said to reporters: "I think it _____ (be) fun!" While he _____ (climb) he suddenly felt dizzy and _____ (+ stop). People who were on the ground watching him held their breath! Fortunately, after a few minutes he _____ (+ continue). Once again he was successful! But if he _____ (not be) careful, some time in the future he might have an accident and then it _____ (be) too late!

5. Tom is having an interview after his climb. Complete the dialogue between him and a reporter

Reporter: So, Mr Smith, there is one thing we would all like to know _____
_____ when you got to the top?

Tom: Well, on one hand I was exhausted, but on the other it was great. I'm quite competitive!

Reporter: And you surely do a lot of training every day....

Tom: I run, swim, climb walls and trees and do a lot of exercise.

Reporter: We know you have travelled a lot. _____
_____ in the Arctic?

Tom: Yes, I have. I went there two years ago.

Reporter: _____ ?

Tom: No, I didn't do anything dangerous there..... my wife was with me!

Reporter: _____ ?

Tom: No she doesn't. She doesn't enjoy my adventures at all. She thinks what I do is too risky!

6. Composition. Write about 60 – 80 words on one of the following:

- Write a letter to a friend telling him/her about a holiday. Include an adventure and say what you were doing when something dangerous or risky happened.

- End a story with the sentence *“There wasn’t anything else I could do.”*

P.A.E.L.V.