STRAIGHT TO THE TOP

Before listening:

Discussion

- What is your favourite hobby?
- Have you tried any activity that you really liked? What was it?
- Is there anything you would like to try? What?

During listening:

Questions

Read the questions and the alternatives before you listen to the story. Only one of the answers is correct. Mark the alternative you think is right.

1. What do you need to be a good climber?
   a. strong fingers, strong legs and concentration.
   b. strong fingers, good balance and concentration.
   c. you need to be good at arm-wrestling.

2. Why do you need a partner when you climb?
   a. for safety, if you fall
   b. for company
   c. to leave you hanging around in mid-air

3. Amanda sees something at the top of the wall, what?
   a. a piece of rope
   b. a pair of sneakers
   c. someone leaning over

4. Who is Rick Sanchez?
   a. the boy who died climbing the impossible wall
   b. a climbing teacher
   c. a professional climbing star
5. Does Rick Sanchez manage to climb the impossible wall?
   a. no
   b. yes

6. How does Amanda manage to climb the impossible wall?
   a. she gets help from someone
   b. she finds the strength to do it
   c. she is wearing good sneakers

7. What does Amanda find on the ledge, on top of the wall?
   a. a boy
   b. nothing
   c. a sneaker

**After reading/listening:**

**Discuss**

- What happened to Amanda? How did she manage to climb the impossible wall?
- What happened to Rick Sanchez? Why did he fail?
- What did he mean when he said “muerte”?
- Why do you need a partner when you climb?
- What is the fun in climbing? Is it fun, do you think?

**Make your own sentences**

Choose 5 of the key words from the program "Straight to the top". Create your own sentences. Write one sentence for every word. Write in your notebooks.

Ex: I hurt my **shoulder** when I fell off the tree.
What does the word mean?

In the texts below there are some words that are written in **bold** letters. Try to figure out what they mean just by looking at the sentence and how the words are used. Pair the correct word with the correct meaning.

Chris always tried to climb the highest wall, with an extra bit at the top that sticks out. The club called it the **impossible** wall. Everybody tried it, and everybody **failed**.

I’m halfway up the highest wall and **clinging** on with one hand. One toe is in a little hole to my left, but my right leg is waving in the air because I can’t get a **grip**.

I hear the voice, not **whispering** but not shouting either. It’s like someone chatting to me in a café. But I shout down to Jeff, who is holding the **rope**, just to **check**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>impossible</td>
<td>viskande</td>
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<tr>
<td>fail</td>
<td>grepp</td>
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<tr>
<td>clinging</td>
<td>kontrollera</td>
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<tr>
<td>grip</td>
<td>misslyckas</td>
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<tr>
<td>whispering</td>
<td>klänga sig fast</td>
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<tr>
<td>check</td>
<td>omöjlig</td>
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Bodyparts

Across
2. mage
3. tunga
6. bröstkorg
8. fingrar
11. tänder
12. armbåge
15. hand
17. läppar
19. arm
21. öra
22. skägg
23. ben

Down
1. ansikte
4. näsa
5. vrist
7. tå
8. fot
9. huvud
10. axlar
12. ögon
13. rygg
14. tumme
16. hår
18. kind
20. knä
Cut out the pictures and put them in correct order. When you are done, work in pairs and practice telling the story to each other. Look at the phrases for help.
"Jeff? Did you say something?" | You know, you never climb alone. You always have a partner. Someone down on the floor who is watching you, in case the automatic safety doesn’t work.

Ten metres up, and even I have to admit he is good. | I’m up to the impossible part and I thank Mr. Sanchez for showing me how to make the next step.

At the top of the wall I see the bottom of a pair of sneakers. | I belong to my local climbing club.

Sanchez’s face is white as he walks away. | In an old warehouse they have built 4 or 5 different walls, with lots of holds.

On the big day, I make sure I am at the front of the crowd. | Just me, sitting on a ledge, almost high enough to touch the ceiling.

Oh, there is one other thing. A dirty, empty, lonely sneaker. | Oh, there is one other thing. A dirty, empty, lonely sneaker.

I throw one arm over the ledge, searching for a handhold. I find something, and I grab on tight. | Now it’s just me and that wall.

He was always trying to climb the highest wall, the one with an extra bit on the top that sticks out. | With a shout I start to fall backwards, away from the wall, down, down.
Key:
Questions

1. b
2. a
3. b
4. c
5. a
6. a
7. c

What does the word mean?

F – Impossible
D – Fail
E – Cling
B – Grip
A – Whispering
C – Check
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