

# The Climb

Photocopiable

## While reading

### Chapters 1–2

- 1 Put the sentences from Chapter 1 in order.
- ☐ Costas climbs up the steep cliff while Eleni swims at the beach and looks at her brother.
  - ☐ Costas says he wants to be the first to climb the steep mountain to the top and to be famous.
  - ☐ Mr Kazakou introduces Costas and Eleni to Mr Holland.
  - ☐ Eleni sees a strange car at her father's villa.
  - ☐ Costas finds Mr Holland's face familiar.
  - ☐ Mr Kazakou and his children walk to the villa town.
  - ☐ Eleni tells Costas not to climb Eagle's Rock because three people have died.
  - ☐ Mr Holland arrives in Greece to do a job.

- 2 Complete these sentences about Chapter 2. Use a word from the box.

accidents	alarm	bird	cliff	company
fence	garden	hands	island	man
rock	skills	villa	writer	

- Costas wanted to climb Eagle's .....
- At the top of the ..... was a large white house called Eagle House.
- It belonged to a ..... called Mr Vitalis.
- Mr Vitalis owned a computer ..... on the island.
- The house had a high electric ..... around three sides of the garden.
- The fence had a special burglar .....
- But there was no fence on the cliff side of the .....
- There were a lot of ..... on Eagle's Rock.
- But Costas wanted to test his climbing ..... and his nerve.
- Sometimes he felt like a ..... up on the cliff.
- Costas met Mr Holland and shook ..... with him.
- His father said Mr Holland was a .....
- But Mr Holland didn't want to talk – he just wanted to get inside his .....

- n 'I've never been to the ....., ' he told them, but Costas didn't believe him.

### Chapters 3–4

- 3 Are these sentences about Chapter 3 right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- Costas told his father about climbing Eagle's Rock. ☐
- Eleni worked in a shop in the holidays. ☐
- The shop belonged to her father. ☐
- Mr Holland came into the shop and bought a book. ☐
- The shop had a small gallery of paintings. ☐
- Mr Vitalis came in and bought a painting. ☐
- Eleni made coffee for people in the café. ☐
- Mr Holland had a cup of coffee at the café. ☐
- Mr Vitalis went to the café and sat behind Mr Holland. ☐
- Mr Vitalis gave his newspaper to Mr Holland. ☐
- Mr Vitalis was worried about money. ☐
- People on the island knew he had money problems. ☐
- Mr Vitalis knew Mr Holland. ☐

- 4 Complete these sentences about Chapter 4. Use the adjectives from the box.

bad	beautiful	brave	clever	famous
fine	frightened	full	high	interested
long	quiet	real	ugly	wide

- Eleni thought Eagle's Rock was ..... but Costas thought it was .....
- 'I'm going to be ..... ' thought Costas, 'when everyone hears about my climb.'
- 'Even my father will know I'm ..... and ..... '
- 'I'll choose a ....., clear morning to climb it.'
- Costas saw Mr Holland looking at the Rock and the house above for a ..... time.
- 'Why is he so ..... in Mr Vitalis's house?' he thought.
- Suddenly his eyes became ..... with surprise.
- He was very ..... during supper.

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- i Then he showed Eleni a book called ..... Adventures by David Ashken with a picture of the writer on the back.
- j 'Mr Ashken's ..... name is David Ashken,' he told her.
- k 'He had a ..... fall from a mountain five years ago,' Costas told Eleni.
- l 'After that he was too ..... to climb again.'
- m 'But perhaps he will try to climb Eagle's Rock because the house at the top is ..... of paintings.'

## Chapters 5–6

## 5 Match the questions (a–h) and answers (1–8) about Chapter 5.

- a Where did Mr Vitalis meet David Ashken? .....
- b Why was Ashken working in the bar? .....
- c What did Vitalis want Ashken to do? .....
- d Why did he need Ashken? .....
- e How could the robber get out of the house with the paintings? .....
- f What did Ashken need money for? .....
- g Why did Ashken say he couldn't do the job? .....
- h What did Ashken say when Vitalis offered another £10,000? .....
  - 1) Because he needed the money.
  - 2) Because he was frightened.
  - 3) Give me a few more days to decide.
  - 4) He could switch off the alarm and open the gates from the inside.
  - 5) In the bar of a hotel.
  - 6) Steal his paintings.
  - 7) The only way into the house was up Eagle's Rock.
  - 8) To buy a business or a shop.

## 6 In Chapter 6, who said, did or thought each of these things? Choose between Eleni (E), Costas (C), Ashken (A) or Landberg (L).

- a Who woke up suddenly? ☐
- b Who decided to go for a swim? ☐
- c Who was carrying a climbing helmet and climbing boots? ☐
- d Who planned to climb Eagle's Rock? ☐
- e Who looked angry to see her? ☐
- f Who shouted 'It's really too dangerous to climb alone?' ☐

- g Who shook – not with cold but with fear? ☐
- h Who climbed up a crack in the rock? ☐
- i Who didn't move for a long time? ☐
- j Who watched the boy through binoculars? ☐
- k Who always wanted to climb with the great David Ashken? ☐
- l Who could still remember the scream? ☐
- m Who broke both legs and a shoulder? ☐
- n Who broke his neck and his back? ☐
- o Who lay in a hospital bed and hoped to die? ☐

## Chapters 7–8

## 7 Discuss these questions about Chapter 7.

- a What did Eleni say to surprise David? .....
- b What did David say to surprise Eleni? .....
- c What did David say to surprise himself? .....

## 8 Match the two parts of these sentences.

- a Eleni thought Ashken could help his brother .....
- b Eleni and Costas guessed someone .....
- c Costas thought that Ashken .....
- d Mr Vitalis needs the insurance money .....
- e Ashken knew he had to climb .....
  - 1) ... because he was a famous climber.
  - 2) ... because his company is losing money.
  - 3) ... was paying Ashken to steal Vitalis's paintings.
  - 4) ... and save the boy.
  - 5) ... was the greatest climber in the world.

9 What do the words in *italics* refer to in each sentence from Chapter 8?

- a *His* hands couldn't hold the rocks because *they* were shaking too much. ....
- b *He* could hear Landberg's scream. ....
- c *He* wasn't on the Austrian mountain. ....
- d *He* was climbing Eagle's Rock. ....
- e *He* couldn't believe *it*. ....
- f *I'll* get *you* down. ....
- g There's a foothold to *your* left. Can you see *it*? .....

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## I Match the two parts of the sentences.

- a After arriving on the island .....
- b Mr Holland was so nervous that .....
- c There was a car and a map .....
- d Mr Holland wanted half the money before doing his job .....
- e The father of Eleni and Costas .....
- f The cliffs were shaped like .....
- g The cliff was steeper and .....
  - 1) ... more dangerous.
  - 2) ... his hand started shaking as he spoke on the phone.
  - 3) ... a 'C' letter around the island.
  - 4) ... owned a small holiday villa and some holiday flats on the island.
  - 5) ... waiting for Mr Holland at the airport garage.
  - 6) ... and the rest after.
  - 7) ... the mysterious man was not sure if coming to the island was the right thing to do.

## 2 Underline the wrong word and put the right one.

- a The signs at the bottom of the cliff said 'Steep. Keep Away. No climbing'. .....
- b Eagle House had an electric door around three sides of the garden. ....
- c Eleni told Costas that two men and a boy had died trying to climb Eagle's Rock. ....
- d Costas loved to climb and it frightened him. ....
- e Mr Kazakou believed that Mr Holland was bad. ....

## 3 Circle the right words.

- a The pictures of Mr Vitalis .....
  - 1) are worth a lot of money.
  - 2) are stolen.
- b Mr Vitalis did not want .....
  - 1) to be seen with Mr Papas.
  - 2) to buy any paintings and Mr Papas was disappointed.
- c Eleni could not believe that when Mr Vitalis left .....
  - 1) Mr Holland took his newspaper and left.
  - 2) ran after him.
- d Mr Vitalis had such a bad year that .....
  - 1) he had to close his computing company.
  - 2) he had to close many businesses.

## 4 Match the questions and the answers.

- a What was Mr Holland looking at through his binoculars? .....

- b What was the name of one of the books Ashken wrote? .....
- c What happened to Ashken in Austria? .....
- d What did Costas think of Ashken's reaction after his accident? .....
- e Why was Costas angry at Ashken? .....
- f What does Eleni ask Costas not to do? .....
  - 1) Up to Eagle House and down to Eagle's Rock.
  - 2) Climb Eagle's Rock.
  - 3) *High Adventures*.
  - 4) Because he wanted to be the first to climb Eagle's Rock to the top.
  - 5) He had a bad fall and his partner died.
  - 6) He thought he was a coward.

## 5 Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- a Ashken will climb up Eagle's Rock, enter Eagle House, steal the paintings and leave through the gates. ☐
- b Ashken needed money because he couldn't climb anymore after the accident. ☐
- c Vitalis offers Ashken some more money to do his job. ☐
- d Costas's father was woken up very early by a noise. ☐

## 6 Circle the right words.

- a When Eleni saw Costas, he was putting his *climbing shoes / climbing helmet* and looking up.
- b When Eleni realised that Costas was climbing up Eagle's Rock, she started shaking with *cold / fear*.
- c When Costas got nearer the *overhang / top* he got very nervous.
- d Costas was very frightened when his foot *slipped / fell* again and again.
- e Ashken was looking at Costas through his *glasses / binoculars*.

## 7 Finish the sentences.

- a Eleni told Ashken that she knew he would climb Eagle's Rock and .....
- b Ashken was surprised to hear that Costas thought he was the greatest climber in the world and now .....
- c While Ashken started climbing up Eagle's Rock he started thinking .....
- d When Ashken got to the part of the mountain in which Costas was the famous climber .....