

Large Mountain Needed; Apply Within – Teacher Version

Job adverts are sent out in a number of ways. They can be posted online, placed in a newspaper or even just stuck in the window of a shop. People who are interested in the job can fill out application forms or send in a summary of their working life. Such a summary is known as a C.V. (curriculum vitae).

Now we can be fairly sure that nobody has ever sent out a job advert looking to give a 'very large mountain' some work, but imagine for a minute that someone had. Which mountains would respond? What would they put on the application form?

Read on to find out, and think; which mountain should get the job?

D: What is this text going to be about and what form will it take? It will be about the responses of various mountains to a job advert seeking a 'large mountain'. It will be written as application forms (or CVs) sent in response to the advert.

E: List three ways in which jobs are advertised. 'Posted online, placed in a newspaper or even just stuck in the window of a shop.'

S: Which mountain would you expect to be included in the responses? Why? Everest, because it is the tallest mountain and probably the most well known.

Name:

Mount Everest (also known as Sagarmāthā or Chomolungma).

Age:

50 – 60 million years old.

Address:

On the border between Nepal and China, in the Himalayan mountains.

Qualifications:

Highest point on the earth's surface (8848m above sea level).

Previous work:

Standing tall – 50/60 million years ago – present.

For millions of years I have stood tall as the highest peak on this planet.

Religious site: Around 2000 years ago – present.

I am sacred to the Sherpa people and am believed to be a place of great spiritual energy.

Buddhists believe that the goddess Miyolangsangma lives at my summit and allows climbers to visit me because of the wealth brought by tourism.

Celebrity: 1885 – present.

Of course, as the world's highest peak I have always gathered quite a bit of attention, but once Clinton Dent wrote a book in 1885 which suggested that I could actually be climbed, interest has exploded. Books, news reports, high-profile climbing attempts; I've had them all. More recently I have starred in many documentaries and films.

classroomsecrets.com

About me:

If you need a mountain who has 'been there, done that' when it comes to high-profile work, I'm the peak for you! I'm used to attention and have handled everything that has come my way with the grace and beauty expected of me. Of course, there has been the odd avalanche which has given me a certain 'dangerous' reputation, but do not let that persuade you to look elsewhere. As an added bonus, you should know that I'm still growing! Facts are facts; you will not find a mountain taller or more famous than me!

S: How would you describe Everest's character/personality as presented in this job application? Give reasons from the text which support your answer. Arrogant, confident or boastful. Many possible justifications can be found in the text; evidence given must illustrate the point.

D: If you were choosing which mountain would get the job, which word, phrase or sentence would most persuade you to choose Everest? Explain your choice. Personal choice; answers must be explained and must make sense.

D: Which phrase might suggest that Everest is 'playing down' its faults? Why? The phrase 'there has been the odd avalanche which has given me a certain 'dangerous' reputation, but do not let that persuade you to look elsewhere'. The inverted commas surrounding 'dangerous' and the use of the word 'odd' suggest that Everest is making light of some quite serious accusations.

E: What are Everest's other two names? Sagarmāthā and Chomolungma.

D: Which two languages is it likely that Everest's other two names come from? Explain your answer. Nepalese and Chinese. This is likely because Everest is stated as living 'On the border between Nepal and China'.

Name:

Kilimanjaro

Age:

Unknown. Perhaps close to 20 million years old.

Address:

Kilimanjaro National Park, Tanzania.

Qualifications:

Tallest peak on earth when measured from land base (around 5600m from land base to summit).

Previous work:

Africa's highest peak: For as long as can be known – present.

It is impossible to say just how long I have been Africa's tallest mountain, but I definitely hold that title now. At 5895m from sea level, I am not exactly small!

Charity fundraiser: 2009

In 2009 a team of celebrities led by Gary Barlow climbed me to raise money for Comic Relief's Red Nose Day. Together we raised £3.35million!

About me:

I'm a bit of a lone ranger; I can cope without the help of other mountains. Everybody has heard of Everest, but the fact is that it's only the highest peak on the earth's surface because it is held up so high to start with by the Himalayan mountain range! If you measure Everest from where it starts out of the other mountains in the range, it only measures about 5200m. That's so much smaller than me! I rise by myself from near sea level. If you need a mountain who can do things by itself, I'm the one for you!

Also, please do not let the talk about me being a dormant volcano worry you; I've not had an eruption in years!

E: Who led the Red Nose Day trip up Kilimanjaro? Gary Barlow

S: Write two sentences (one for each reason) which summarise the two most obvious reasons why Kilimanjaro says it should be chosen. It is a mountain which exists and can get things done on its own. It is the tallest mountain in the world when measured from land base to summit.

S: Which mountain does Kilimanjaro see as its closest rival? How can you tell? Everest, because it specifically mentions it and gives reasons not to choose it.

Name:

Mauna Kea

Age:

1 million years old.

Address:

Hawai'i Island, Hawaii.

Qualifications:

Tallest peak on Earth when measured from top to bottom (10210m).

Previous work:

Being very, very, *very* large: 1 million years ago – present.

From the moment I was born I grew at a very rapid rate. I'm a volcanic mountain and have grown from the bottom of the sea to my current height above it. If you measure me from my base (under the ocean) to my peak, I'm over a mile larger than Everest!

Sacred mountain: 300 – 800A.D. – present.

Ancient Hawaiians believed me to be one of the five sacred peaks of Hawaii. I am the home of the ancient Hawaiian gods, and shrines built on my sides mark where my sacred area begins.

About me:

I'm a self-starter. I started at the bottom and worked my way to the top. I have grown myself over hundreds of thousands of years into the largest mountain on the planet. Forget about Everest; if I was not stuck on the sea floor I would dwarf the Himalayan!

That being said, I do prefer to have most of my body hidden underwater. It keeps me cool. I'm dormant now, but it can be so hot being a volcanic mountain!

So if you need any water-based work doing, or you need the biggest mountain around, I am the perfect choice!

M: Look again at Mauna Kea's 'Previous work' section. Identify two ways the mountain has emphasised its size in the first sentence. The word 'very' is repeated three times. The final 'very' is italicised.

D: What is 'the Himalayan'? 'The Himalayan' refers to Everest.

D: What does Mauna Kea mean when it says it would 'dwarf' Everest? It means that it would make Everest seem small or insignificant if the two were compared.

E: Place the three mountains in order from oldest to youngest. Everest, Kilimanjaro, Mauna Kea.

M: Which mountain would you choose for the job? What about that mountain's application convinced you that they were the best candidate? Personal opinion; an explanation must be given.

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Section A

1. List three ways in which jobs are advertised.
2. What are Everest's other two names?
3. Who led the Red Nose Day trip up Kilimanjaro?
4. Place the three mountains in order from oldest to youngest.

Section B

5. After reading just the introduction, answer the following question: what is this text going to be about and what form will it take?
6. If you were choosing which mountain would get the job, which word, phrase or sentence would most persuade you to choose Everest? Explain your choice.
7. Which phrase might suggest that Everest is 'playing down' its faults? Why?
8. Which two languages is it likely that Everest's other two names come from? Explain your answer.
9. What is 'the Himalayan'?
10. What does Mauna Kea mean when it says it would 'dwarf' Everest?

Section C

11. After reading the introduction, decide: which mountain would you expect to be included in the responses? Why?
12. How would you describe Everest's character/personality as presented in this job application? Give reasons from the text which support your answer.
13. Write two sentences (one for each reason) which summarise the two most obvious reasons why Kilimanjaro says it should be chosen.
14. Which mountain does Kilimanjaro see as its closest rival? How can you tell?

Section D

15. Look again at Mauna Kea's 'Previous work' section. Identify two ways the mountain has emphasised its size in the first sentence.
16. Which mountain would you choose for the job? What about that mountain's application convinced you that they were the best candidate?

Whole Class Guided Reading – Teaching Guide

- The text is for the children to read. Give each pair a copy of the text (without questions) to read individually or as a whole class. This text has been aimed at Year 4 (Wales)/Primary 5 (Scotland)/Grade 3 (Australia).
- The teacher should use the teacher version. It shows you where to pause after each section and provides questions for you to ask. The colours refer to our levels so that you can direct specific questions at specific students in terms of difficulty (their version does not have these colours to show them which is which).
 - Beginner – (Red)
 - Easy – (Blue)
 - Tricky – (Orange)
 - Expert – (Green)
- The children can record their answers to the questions at the end of the shared read/discussion or in a different session by using the comprehension sheet. The questions have been re-grouped into abilities so that you can assign sections to specific children.
 - Section A – Beginner
 - Section B – Easy
 - Section C – Tricky
 - Section D – Expert