



Pre-Reading Activities

A: Picture

Look at the picture and find:

a mobile phone; a bush walker; a mountain peak; fog; rain

Now answer the questions:

1. What is the man doing?
2. Where do you think he is?
3. Who do you think he is phoning?



B: Discussion

Work together in pairs or small groups and discuss the questions below:

1. Do many people get lost in your country? Where do they get lost?
2. Who would you phone (if you had a mobile phone) if you were lost in your country?

Reading Activities

A: Questions

Read today's article quickly and answer the questions.

1. Where did Darren Alcock get lost?
2. Who did Darren Alcock phone?
3. Who did his father phone?
4. What did they do?



Tourist Calls Britain for Help From Australian Bush

SYDNEY Wednesday August 15 (Reuters) - A British tourist lost in the Australian bush in heavy rain and fog rang his father in England on his mobile phone to get help.

A police spokesman said Darren Alcock, 23, tried to call Australian emergency services when he found himself stranded at the top of Bluff Knoll in the Stirling Range National Park, about 260 miles south of Perth, but the connection kept breaking.

So he rang his father, in Norfolk, England, who called police in the state of Western Australia.

Four rescuers climbed up the peak to reach the lost bush walker and helped him down to safety. Alcock was cold but unharmed.

He had become totally lost in the heavy fog. "It was lucky he had his mobile phone with him," the police spokesman told Reuters.

Word:

connection - the way that one thing is joined to another

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B: Vocabulary

Look in today's article for the words which match the meanings below .

Meanings

1. Another word for a forest.
2. When you don't know where you are.
3. People you call when you are in an emergency.
4. When you can't leave somewhere because of bad weather.
5. Not hurt.



C: Ordering the Events

- i) Look at the pictures. What happened first? What happened next?
Look at the article again and say which picture is first, second etc.



- ii) Now match the pictures with these sentences saying what happened to Darren.
- | | |
|--|---|
| a. He tried to phone Australian emergency services but the connection kept breaking. | e. His father phoned the police in Australia. |
| b. He was stranded and lost. | f. It started raining and there was also heavy fog. |
| c. He phoned his father in England. | g. Four rescuers found Darren Alcock. |
| d. Darren Alcock went walking in the Australian bush. | |

D: Remembering Information

Read the sentences below. One word in each of the sentences is wrong. Find the word, cross it out and then correct it.

Example: *His father called police in Northern Australia.*

Answer: *His father called police in ~~Northern~~ **Western** Australia.*

1. An Australian tourist was lost in the bush.
2. Darren Alcock was 22 years old.
3. He became lost in heavy rain and snow.
4. A fire service spokesman said Darren Alcock tried to call Australian emergency services.
5. Darren found himself stranded at the bottom of Bluff Knoll.
6. Five rescuers climbed up to reach the lost bush walker.



Post-Reading Activities

You may do one or more of these.

A: Language/Writing

Read the story about Darren, it is written in the present tense. Write the story again in the past tense (use the past simple and past continuous tenses).

Darren Alcock is walking in the Australian bush. It is a nice sunny day. Later on it starts raining and there is also heavy fog. Darren Alcock is stranded and lost. He tries phoning the Australian emergency services but the connection keeps breaking. He phones his father in England. His father phones the police in Australia. Four rescuers find Darren Alcock.

B: Listening

Listen as your teacher asks you 5 questions and write down the answers. Don't look at the article!

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

C: Vocabulary

Work in small groups and answer the questions below.

1. Have you ever been **lost**? What happened? Where were you?
2. Have you ever had to call the **emergency services**? When? What happened?
3. Do you have a **mobile phone**? Why do you have it? Who do you usually **call**?
4. Have you ever been **stranded** somewhere? When? What happened?
5. Have you ever been in **heavy fog**? Where?

Teachers' Notes and Answer Key follow on next page.

TEACHERS' NOTES AND ANSWER KEY

Pre-Reading Activities

A: Pictures - Notes

Accept a range of answers, especially for question 3. Students are encouraged to speculate on what he is doing and who he has called on his phone.

A: Pictures - Answers

1. He is calling someone on his mobile phone.
2. He is walking in the mountains / bush.
3. Allow a range of answers.

Reading Activities

A: Questions - Notes

(In Australian and New Zealand English the word 'bush' is used instead of 'forest' or 'wood' to talk about an area of wild land with lots of trees. (e.g. He got lost in the bush.) Be careful not to confuse it with a **'bush'** meaning a small tree. A bushwalker in Australia means someone who has gone for a hike.)

You may wish to give students a more detailed explanation of the phrase **'the connection kept breaking...'** in paragraph 2 of the article. You could ask them what happens sometimes when you phone someone and then the call stops and you can't hear them (i.e. the connection has broken).

A: Questions - Answers

1. In the Australian bush
2. His father in England.
3. The Australian emergency services
4. They sent four rescuers to help Darren Alcock.

B: Vocabulary - Answers

1. bush
2. lost
3. emergency services
4. stranded
5. unharmed

C: Ordering the Events - Answers

- i) 1 - Picture f, 2 - Picture b, 3 - Picture c, 4 - Picture a, 5 - Picture d, 6 - Picture g, 7 - Picture e
- ii) Picture f - d, Picture b - f, Picture c - b, Picture a - a, Picture d - c, Picture g - c, Picture e - g

D: Remembering the Information - Notes

If you want to give your class extra listening practice you could try reading these sentences aloud to them. You may need to do this two or three times. Students could write down the word in each sentence they think is the error and then compare their answers in pairs.

D: Remembering the Information - Answers

1. An **Australian** tourist was lost in the bush. (**A British tourist**)
2. Darren Alcock was **22** years old. (**23** years old)
3. Darren became lost in heavy rain and **snow**. (**fog**)
4. A **fire service** spokesman said Darren Alcock tried to call Australian emergency services. (a **police** spokesman)
5. Darren found himself stranded at the **bottom** of Bluff Knoll. (**top**)
6. **Five** rescuers climbed up to reach the lost bush walker. (**four**)

Post-Reading Activities

A: Language / Writing - Answers

Darren Alcock **was walking** in the Australian bush. It **was** a nice sunny day. Later on it **started** raining and there **was** also heavy fog. Darren Alcock **was** stranded and lost. He **tried** phoning the Australian emergency services but the connection **kept** breaking. He **phoned** his father in England. His father **phoned** the police in Australia. Four rescuers **found** Darren Alcock.

B: Listening - Text to be read aloud to students

1. How old is Darren Alcock?
2. Who did he phone in England?
3. Who did his father phone?
4. Was Darren hurt?
5. How many rescuers found Darren?

B: Listening - Answers

1. 23 years old
2. His father
3. The police (in Australia)
4. No, he was unharmed
5. Four rescuers