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Into Thin Air Layered Curriculum

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Required Elements – 36%
Class discussion questions are to be completed by everybody25 points
Class activities are to be completed by everybody20 points /80
Everybody MUST present 1 thing from their highest completed layer35 points
Everyone will begin in the C Layer. You will need to successfully complete 4 activities in this layer before moving up to
the B Layer. Activities in this layer will allow you to achieve a final mark of no more than 66%. Put a "check" next to the
activities you have chosen.
C LAYER: Choose 4 Activities for 60 points (4 x 15 points each) - 66%
1. Using a Venn diagram compare and contrast the 2 main characters. /60
2. Create a plot diagram for the book.
3. Make vocabulary flash cards for 10 new words from novel. Write definitions on the back.
4. Write 5 questions you would like to ask the main character and provide the answers you imagine he/she would
give.
5. Write a summary for the back of the book that doesn't reveal the ending/climax.
6. Choose one character and write a poem about that character.
7. Write an advertising jingle to promote the book on the radio .
8. Create a time line displaying the events of the story. Include writing and drawings
9. Create a comic strip based on a significant event in the novel. Include thought bubbles, speech bubbles and
narration. Minimum of six frames.
10. Heading to an online outdoor equipment site, create a virtual shopping cart of the things you might want to
wear if you were in the cold of Mount Everest. What kinds of things might protect you from frostbite? Create a screen
shot and print your shopping cart.
11. Obtain and watch the movie "Into Thin Air." Write a movie review about it, at least 1 page.
12. Research to find out how to use an oxygen mask when and if you should ever climb at high altitudes. Write a 1-2
page short essay.
13. Assess the rest of the climbers to decide who might have been a better group leader than Fischer or Hall. Why?
Write a 1-2 page short essay.
14. Find maps of the ways hikers can go up the side of the mountain. What are the natural features and the
elevations at each major point of the climb? Recreate one of these maps.
15. Complete the character and object description worksheets.
Now in B, you need to successfully complete 2 activities in order to move up to the A Layer. Activities in this layer will
allow you to achieve a final mark of no more than 81%.
B LAYER: Choose 2 Activities for 30 points (2 x 15 points each) - 81%

- _____1. Compare a conflict you have had with one that occurs in the book. Make 5 connections.
- _____2. Analyze a popular song's lyrics. Compare it to the book and explain the connections.
- /30

- _____4. Create a free verse poem about the novel that uses 5 of your glossary words.
- ____ 5. Write a rap that tells the plot of your story.

_ 3. Create a collage showing the main events of the text.

<u>6</u>. Make out a trip plan to hike up Everest. Research airline tickets, group tour tickets, etc. to see how much this adventure of a lifetime will cost, what groups would lead you up the mountain, and what you would have to pack. Write a 2-3 page plan.

_____7. Choose five characters from the book and try to find out what happened to them after this horrible event took place. How did the survivors fare? Write 2-3 pages.

8. Find as many articles as you can (at least 5) about this particular event. How do the stories differ? How do they stay the same? Write 2-3 pages.

B LAYER (Continued)

_____9. Do research to find out what happens to the brain as it is deprived of oxygen. At what point does permanent damage become possible? Write 2-3 pages.

_____10. Taking into consideration the conditions on Everest, how might you design a better camp for the hikers as they make their way up the mountain? Write 2-3 pages, OR illustrate the camp with labels and explanations.

_____11. Research to find out more about how frostbite occurs and what physical effects it can have in the long term. Write 2-3 pages.

_____12. Research to find the opposing opinions of whether hikers need oxygen up on the climb or not. Which argument do you believe more? Write 2-3 pages.

_____13. Research to find out why the body suffers from altitude sickness, how a person can prevent it, and how a person can stop the sickness from getting worse. What treatments are available? Write 2-3 pages.

_____14. Though often referred to in stories and in movies, many people aren't quite clear as to what or who a Sherpa is. Research to find out more about these Indian people. Write 2-3 pages.

In A, you need to complete 1 activity. Success in this layer will allow you to achieve a final mark of up to 100%.

A LAYER: Choose 1 Activity for 30 points

_____1. Choose 3-5 songs that could act as the soundtrack for this novel. Create the soundtrack, then write/explain how each song lends itself to the novel.

_____2. Develop and present a monologue reflecting the feelings and experiences of a main character and his/her interactions with others.

_____ 3. Create and dramatize a 'movie trailer' advertising the novel.

_____ 4. Take a 30 question, multiple choice, final unit test on the book.

____5. Write a 3-5 Page Paper Researching Hillary's Ascent. Investigate Sir Edmund Hillary to see how he managed to get up Everest in that day and age. What made his feat even more spectacular than being one of the first people to reach the summit?

_____6. The Adventure You'd Like to Document. If you had the opportunity to present any trip to a magazine like Outside, what trip might you want to take and then write about? What adventure would you like to have? Create either a 3-5 page paper, or a travel brochure highlighting the trip.

Total:	/200
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/30

Name:	Date:

Character Descriptions

Jon Krakauer	
Rob Hall	
Andy Harris	
Ang Dorje Sherpa	
Yasuko Namba	
Scott Fischer	
Anatoli Boukreev	
Beck Weathers	
Ian Woodall	
Bruce Herrod	
Doug Hansen	
Neal Beidleman	

Lopsang Jangbu Sherpa

Name:			

Date:_____

Object Descriptions

Mt. Everest	
Phakding	
Lobuje	
Everest Base Camp	
Camp One	
Camp Two	
Lhotse Face	
Camp Three	
Southeast Ridge	
South Col	
The Geneva Spur	
Northeast Ridge	
South Summit	
Hillary Step	
The Balcony	
Crampons	
Ice Axe	

Sherpa