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13-year-old climbs Everest

http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1005/100523-record_breaker.html

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THE ARTICLE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1005/100523-record_breaker.html

A 13-year-old boy has become the youngest person to climb Mt. Everest. Jordan Romero broke the previous record set by Nepal's 15-year-old Ming Kipa in 2003. Jordan has now climbed the highest peaks on six continents. His first record climb came when he scaled Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania when he was just nine. He plans to climb the Vinson Massif in Antarctica in December. This will make him the youngest person to climb the tallest mountains on all seven continents. The first thing Jordan did on the summit of Everest was call his mother. "I'm calling from the top of the world," he told her. Jordan wrote about his climbing on his blog: "It's my dream...I know it's a big goal, and lucky for me my family is supporting me every step of the way."

Jordan decided he wanted to climb the world's tallest peaks when he was in fourth grade. He told his mother and father and they started a training programme for Jordan to achieve his dream. His mother, Leigh Anne Drake, recalled the first time they took Jordan on a serious hike. She said it was a six-mile trek near their home in Big Bear, California. Drake says her son moaned, complained and cried most of the way, but when he got home, he wanted to continue training. "I decided we were going to follow Jordan's lead," Leigh Anne said. "If he wants to try it, we're going to support it." Romero said he climbed Everest for a special reason. He wanted to inspire more young people to get outdoors and reduce obesity in America's teenagers.

WARM-UPS

1. BREAKING RECORDS: Walk around the class and talk to other students about breaking records. Change partners often. Sit with your first partner(s) and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

youngest person / previous / records / continents / Antarctica / summits / blog / goals / climbing / training / achieving dreams / hikes / complain / inspiring young people

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. DREAMS: What are yours? Complete this table. Share what you wrote you're your partner(s). Change partners and share again.

	Why?	How to make it come true
My dream job		
My dream holiday		
My dream house		
My dream car		
My dream partner		
My dream dream		

4. 13: Students A **strongly** believe 13 is too young to be climbing Mt. Everest; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. RECORDS: Which is the best? Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Change partners and share your rankings.

- youngest to climb Mt Everest
- eating the most hot-dogs
- running the fastest 100 metres
- having the highest IQ
- being the richest person
- knowing the most English words
- being the tallest person
- having the kindest heart

6. INSPIRE: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'inspire'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1005/100523-record_breaker.html

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. A 13-year-old becomes the youngest person ever to climb Mt. Everest. | T / F |
| b. The boy wants to climb the highest peaks on six continents. | T / F |
| c. He called his mother once he reached the top of Mt. Everest. | T / F |
| d. The boy's family are backing their son to reach his goal. | T / F |
| e. The boy decided to climb the world's highest peaks when he was four. | T / F |
| f. His first hike was a happy occasion full of laughter. | T / F |
| g. The boy wanted to give up climbing after going on a 6-mile hike. | T / F |
| h. The boy climbed Everest to encourage kids to lose weight. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1. previous | a. objective |
| 2. scaled | b. back |
| 3. summit | c. climbed |
| 4. goal | d. complained |
| 5. lucky | e. earlier |
| 6. decided | f. encourage |
| 7. achieve | g. chose |
| 8. moaned | h. fortunate |
| 9. support | i. top |
| 10. inspire | j. pull off |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Romero broke the | a. dream |
| 2. the highest peaks | b. did on the summit |
| 3. The first thing Jordan | c. programme |
| 4. I'm calling from the | d. step of the way |
| 5. supporting me every | e. more young people |
| 6. they started a training | f. on six continents |
| 7. achieve his | g. obesity |
| 8. her son moaned, | h. previous record |
| 9. He wanted to inspire | i. top of the world |
| 10. reduce | j. complained and cried |

WHILE READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1005/100523-record_breaker.html

GAP FILL: Put the words into the gaps in the text.

A 13-year-old boy has _____ the youngest person to climb Mt. Everest. Jordan Romero broke the _____ record set by Nepal's 15-year-old Ming Kipa in 2003. Jordan has now climbed the highest _____ on six continents. His first _____ climb came when he scaled Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania when he was just nine. He plans to climb the Vinson Massif in Antarctica in December. This will make him the youngest person to climb the tallest mountains on all seven continents. The first thing Jordan did on the _____ of Everest was call his mother. "I'm calling from the top of the world," he told her. Jordan wrote about his climbing on his _____: "It's my dream...I know it's a big goal, and _____ for me my family is supporting me every _____ of the way."

lucky
peaks
blog
record
become
step
previous
summit

Jordan decided he wanted to climb the world's _____ peaks when he was in fourth grade. He told his mother and father and they started a training programme for Jordan to _____ his dream. His mother, Leigh Anne Drake, _____ the first time they took Jordan on a serious hike. She said it was a six-mile _____ near their home in Big Bear, California. Drake says her son moaned, _____ and cried most of the way, but when he got home, he wanted to continue training. "I decided we were going to follow Jordan's _____," Leigh Anne said. "If he wants to try it, we're going to support it." Romero said he climbed Everest for a special reason. He wanted to _____ more young people to get outdoors and _____ obesity in America's teenagers.

trek
inspire
achieve
complained
recalled
reduce
tallest
lead

13-year-old climbs Everest – 23rd May, 2010

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1005/100523-record_breaker.html

A 13-year-old boy has become the youngest person to climb Mt. Everest. Jordan Romero _____ record set by Nepal's 15-year-old Ming Kipa in 2003. Jordan has now climbed _____ six continents. His first record climb came _____ Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania when he was just nine. He plans to climb the Vinson Massif in Antarctica in December. This will make him the youngest person to climb the tallest mountains on _____. The first thing Jordan did on the summit of Everest was call his mother. "I'm calling from the top of the world," he told her. Jordan wrote about his climbing on his blog: "It's my dream...I know it's a _____ for me my family is supporting me _____ way."

Jordan decided he wanted to climb the world's tallest peaks when he was in fourth grade. He told his mother and father and they started a training programme for Jordan _____. His mother, Leigh Anne Drake, recalled the first time they took Jordan _____. She said it was a six-mile trek near their home in Big Bear, California. Drake says her son _____ cried most of the way, but when he got home, he wanted to continue training. "I decided we were going to follow Jordan's lead," Leigh Anne said. "If he wants to try it, _____ it." Romero said he climbed Everest for a special reason. _____ more young people to get outdoors _____ America's teenagers.

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AFTER READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1005/100523-record_breaker.html

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'break' and 'record'.

break	record

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• become• set• six• nine• seven• step	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• fourth• dream• serious• follow• special• reduce
--	--

STUDENT BREAKING RECORDS SURVEY

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1005/100523-record_breaker.html

Write five GOOD questions about breaking records in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'record'?
- c) What world record would you like to break and why?
- d) What do you think of a 13-year-old being the youngest to climb Mt. Everest?
- e) What was your greatest achievement when you were 13?
- f) Would you like to climb Mt. Everest?
- g) What's your dream?
- h) What do you need to do to realize your dream? Will this happen?
- i) Would you like a son like Jordan?
- j) What should Jordan do after climbing the tallest peaks on seven continents?

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DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article?
- b) What were your dreams when you were ten?
- c) What would you say to your son or daughter if they really wanted to climb Mt. Everest?
- d) Looking back on your life, are there things you could/should have achieved that you didn't?
- e) What's the biggest support you've received from your family?
- f) What career do you think Jordan will do in the future?
- g) Who's the most inspiring teenager you know?
- h) What three adjectives describe Jordan and why?
- i) Do you think Jordan will inspire young people to get outdoors?
- j) What questions would you like to ask Jordan?

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LANGUAGE – MULTIPLE CHOICE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1005/100523-record_breaker.html

A 13-year-old boy has become the youngest person to climb Mt. Everest. Jordan Romero broke the (1) ____ record set by Nepal's 15-year-old Ming Kipa in 2003. Jordan has now climbed the highest peaks on six continents. His first record climb came when he (2) ____ Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania when he was just nine. He plans to climb the Vinson Massif in Antarctica in December. This will (3) ____ him the youngest person to climb the tallest mountains on (4) ____ seven continents. The first thing Jordan did on the summit of Everest was call his mother. "I'm calling from the top of the (5) _____," he told her. Jordan wrote about his climbing on his blog: "It's my dream...I know it's a big goal, and lucky for me my family is supporting me every (6) ____ of the way."

Jordan decided he wanted to climb the world's tallest peaks when he was in fourth grade. He told his mother and father and they started a training programme for Jordan (7) ____ achieve his dream. His mother, Leigh Anne Drake, (8) ____ the first time they took Jordan on a serious hike. She said it was a six-mile trek near their home in Big Bear, California. Drake says her son (9) _____, complained and cried most of the way, but when he got home, he wanted to continue training. "I decided we were going to follow Jordan's (10) _____," Leigh Anne said. "If he wants to try it, we're going to support it." Romero said he climbed Everest for a special reason. He wanted to (11) ____ more young people to get outdoors and reduce obesity (12) ____ America's teenagers.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) previously | (b) preview | (c) previews | (d) previous |
| 2. | (a) scaled | (b) escalated | (c) skated | (d) slated |
| 3. | (a) do | (b) be | (c) make | (d) take |
| 4. | (a) each | (b) all | (c) every | (d) whole |
| 5. | (a) Earth | (b) world | (c) sky | (d) atmosphere |
| 6. | (a) steps | (b) ladder | (c) step | (d) stair |
| 7. | (a) to | (b) at | (c) in | (d) on |
| 8. | (a) called | (b) calling | (c) recalling | (d) recalled |
| 9. | (a) meant | (b) moaning | (c) mean | (d) moaned |
| 10. | (a) bead | (b) lead | (c) read | (d) dead |
| 11. | (a) inspire | (b) conspire | (c) perspire | (d) transpire |
| 12. | (a) into | (b) inside | (c) in | (d) inner |

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WRITING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1005/100523-record_breaker.html

Write about **breaking records** for 10 minutes. Correct your partner’s paper.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about Jordan Romero. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. BREAKING RECORDS: Make a poster about breaking records. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. EVEREST: Write a magazine article about climbing Everest. Include imaginary interviews with Jordan and a top climber.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. LETTER: Write a letter to Jordan. Ask him/her three questions about climbing Mt. Everest. Give him three ideas on the records he could break next. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE:

- a. T b. F c. T d. T e. F f. F g. F h. T

SYNONYM MATCH:

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1. previous | a. earlier |
| 2. scaled | b. climbed |
| 3. summit | c. top |
| 4. goal | d. objective |
| 5. lucky | e. fortunate |
| 6. decided | f. chose |
| 7. achieve | g. pull off |
| 8. moaned | h. complained |
| 9. support | i. back |
| 10. inspire | j. encourage |

PHRASE MATCH:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Romero broke the | a. previous record |
| 2. the highest peaks | b. on six continents |
| 3. The first thing Jordan | c. did on the summit |
| 4. I'm calling from the | d. top of the world |
| 5. supporting me every | e. step of the way |
| 6. they started a training | f. programme |
| 7. achieve his | g. dream |
| 8. her son moaned, | h. complained and cried |
| 9. He wanted to inspire | i. more young people |
| 10. reduce | j. obesity |

GAP FILL:

13-year-old climbs Everest

A 13-year-old boy has **become** the youngest person to climb Mt. Everest. Jordan Romero broke the **previous** record set by Nepal's 15-year-old Ming Kipa in 2003. Jordan has now climbed the highest **peaks** on six continents. His first **record** climb came when he scaled Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania when he was just nine. He plans to climb the Vinson Massif in Antarctica in December. This will make him the youngest person to climb the tallest mountains on all seven continents. The first thing Jordan did on the **summit** of Everest was call his mother. "I'm calling from the top of the world," he told her. Jordan wrote about his climbing on his **blog**: "It's my dream...I know it's a big goal, and **lucky** for me my family is supporting me every **step** of the way."

Jordan decided he wanted to climb the world's **tallest** peaks when he was in fourth grade. He told his mother and father and they started a training programme for Jordan to **achieve** his dream. His mother, Leigh Anne Drake, **recalled** the first time they took Jordan on a serious hike. She said it was a six-mile **trek** near their home in Big Bear, California. Drake says her son moaned, **complained** and cried most of the way, but when he got home, he wanted to continue training. "I decided we were going to follow Jordan's **lead**," Leigh Anne said. "If he wants to try it, we're going to support it." Romero said he climbed Everest for a special reason. He wanted to **inspire** more young people to get outdoors and **reduce** obesity in America's teenagers.

LANGUAGE WORK

- 1 - d 2 - a 3 - b 4 - c 5 - c 6 - b 7 - d 8 - a 9 - b 10 - d 11 - c 12 - a

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