

Task: Bush Safety

Approach: Station
Focus: Summarising
Resources: None

Year: 8

Questions / instructions:

Read each of the paragraphs.

Circle the answer which **best** summarises each paragraph.

1. With school back in full swing and still a nice slice of summer to enjoy, lots of teachers plan school camps and outdoor education at this time of the year. About this time last year, I went away with some intermediate kids to Masterton. We went caving, boating, horse-riding, abseiling and had an overnight hike up Mt Holdsworth. It was a good test of everyone's fitness.

a. Summer is the time to go on camps and do outdoor activities.

☒ b. School camps often happen in the summer term as the weather is good for outdoor activities.

c. An overnight hike is a good test of everyone's fitness.

2. Going into the bush is serious business. Sure it's fun, but you have to be prepared. Before we left base camp on our overnight tramp, everyone's pack was checked to make sure we had what was necessary and to take out things which weren't. Out went the hairbrushes, soft toys and computer games! Our class had the benefit of an expert outdoor education guide who knew the route, the dangers and how to cope if things went wrong.

☒ a. It is important to be well prepared if you go into the bush.

b. An outdoor education guide needs to check everyone's pack before they go into the bush.

c. Hair brushes, soft toys or computer games are not necessary on overnight tramps.

3. You probably think of the Police as an organisation that is mainly concerned with dealing with criminals. True enough, but we also have a responsibility to protect life even though there's no crime involved. Around the country in all the major cities there are Search and Rescue (S. A. R.) teams available to help when something goes wrong in the great outdoors. To be a team member means having an interest in bushcraft, climbing, tramping and the like and having skills that are necessary in a rescue attempt.

a. In all major cities there are Search and Rescue teams.

☒ b. The Police have a responsibility to help people who get into trouble and so organise Search and Rescue Teams.

c. Search and Rescue teams are made up of Police who are good at bushcraft, climbing and tramping.

4. Last year the alarm was raised for nearly 1,200 people who got lost or injured in the bush or at sea and it was the Police S. A. R. teams who swung into action. The Police aren't able to do this work all on their own. Often they use volunteers: park rangers, hunters, experienced trampers, boaties, pilots and others who have some skill or knowledge that might be useful. Together as a team, they aim to save the missing person before it is too late.

a. The S. A. R. teams were called out to help 1,200 people who were lost or injured in the bush last year.

☒ b. The Police have volunteers to help in their S. A. R. teams.

c. The Police were too busy to rescue all the people who got lost and injured in the bush last year.

Total score: 4 10
3 25
2 31
1 27
0 7

Commentary:

Many year 8 students were not very skilled at selecting the statement that best summarised each paragraph. Only 35 percent got more than half right.