



MARK FOR REVIEW?



YES



NO

"Well, Tenzing, it's now up to our combined talents to reach the summit. It doesn't look like those two made it to the top." Edmund Hillary's voice carried all the way to his partner Tenzing Norgay at the other side of the camp—that was how we found out that the first team to attempt reaching the summit had been driven back down by a blizzard. They [the two who had made it to the top] staggered into camp exhausted and disappointed. We are at South Col, the last ridge before the summit. Now it is up to Hillary and Norgay to try to be the first climbers to conquer Mount Everest.

I first met Hillary and Norgay in 1953, at the start of this hazardous expedition. Norgay, the Nepalese Sherpa, was as agile as a mountain goat; a quiet man, he said nothing when we were introduced, just bowed politely. Hillary, a beekeeper from New Zealand with a long face and limbs, looked like a mountain climber. "Are you ready to conquer the magnificent Mount Everest?" he asked at our first meeting. "S-sure," I answered, managing a weak smile and feeling proud to be part of the team.

The morning after our first summit team returned was cold (17 degrees) and windy. We ate dried fruit and biscuits and drank some hot, sweet tea. Some of us were going to help Hillary and Norgay move their cumbersome gear farther up the mountainside to Camp IX and then descend to South Col to wait for their return. The climb was slow and treacherous, but everyone made it safely. We stayed long enough to ensure that the tent and gear were safely installed on the uneven ice slope and then prepared to leave the valiant pair. "Good luck," I told Hillary and Norgay, as I shook their hands.

All I remember of the next day is listening to people discussing the dangers of that last vertical snow cliff and waiting for news. Finally, sometime that evening after a five-hour climb to the summit from their camp, Hillary and Norgay walked back into South Col wearing the biggest grins I'd ever seen. The entire camp erupted in cheers.

"Can you describe it? How did it feel to be up there?" somebody asked; the rest of us instantly fell silent as Hillary spoke.

"First there is an overwhelming feeling of pride and satisfaction at having made it. We could see for a hundred miles all around—mostly glaciers and mountains. It felt like the beginning of time—just us and the snow-capped mountains."

"Wait until you see the photographs Hillary took," Norgay added. "They'll tell more than words ever could."

They planted an ice pick with the flags of the United Nations, Nepal, Great Britain, and India on the summit. As long as the flags fly, climbers who reach the top of Mount Everest will know who got there first.



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Which of the following statements **best** explains the effect of using a first-person narrator as an observer instead of having Edmund Hillary tell his own story?

- A. The narrator gives us a more objective account than Hillary.
- B. The narrator is a much more effective storyteller than Hillary.
- C. The narrator knew more about Mount Everest than Hillary.
- D. The narrator played a significant role in Hillary's historic climb.

CSO: RLA.O. 7.1.05 – DOK: 2

Students will determine and interpret the elements of literature to construct meaning and recognize author's and/or reader's purpose: plot, character, setting, conflict, rising and falling action, climax, resolution, point of view, antagonist, protagonist, hero.

Rationale:

A: Correct Response: The narrator simply recounts what he witnesses.

B: There's no evidence that the narrator is a better storyteller than Hillary.

C: There's no evidence the narrator knows more about Mount Everest than Hillary; in fact, the opposite is most likely true.

D: The narrator did play a role, but it was not a significant one.



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Read this sentence.

Now it is up to Hillary and Norgay to try to be the first climbers to conquer Mount Everest.

The word *conquer* suggests which of the following?

- A. The denotation of the word is used to show that Mount Everest is easier to climb than most people think.
- B. The denotation of the word is used to show that Mount Everest is being compared to a fortified castle that invaders cannot enter.
- C. The connotation of the word is used to show that Mount Everest presents many challenges that must be overcome for climbers to reach the top.
- D. The connotation of the word is used to show that Mount Everest is not going to be very challenging for Hillary and Norgay.

CSO: RLA.O.7.1.01 – DOK: 3

Students will compare/contrast connotation and denotation to understand and enhance meaning of words, sentences and uncomplicated passages.

Rationale:

A: The word *conquer* suggests the opposite.

B: Although the word *conquer* can mean “to overcome by force,” that is not the denotation of the word in this case; there’s no evidence of this comparison.

C: Correct Response: This answer is the best choice; one possible meaning of *conquer* is “to overcome,” which is what is suggested in the case of Mount Everest.

D: Although Hillary and Norgay are going to be the first climbers to reach the top, it is very challenging and the word *conquer* suggests that it won’t be easy.