

By Edward Whymper



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We've made it! We've actually made it. I'm writing this on top of the Matterhorn. And they said it couldn't be done. Pah! I set off yesterday morning with six friends, and we reached our camp by noon. Next day, we were on the move early.

Luckily, the weather was brilliant and the climbing was easier than we thought. I was so excited, I ran the last bit.



Later that day...



Everything's going wrong. Horribly wrong. On the way back down disaster struck. We were all roped together for safety. Then, suddenly, one man lost his footing and slipped, dragging three others to their deaths. I still can't believe it. I only survived because the rope broke and stopped me plumping down...

actually: indeed
reach: get there

excited: upset
disaster: bad luck

rope: cord, line
drag: pull

Do they climb?

The Italian Reinhold Messner – a goldfish – the Yeti – a banana – a bear – the Eiffel Tower – a river – an alpinist – a potato – a prison cell – a monkey – a cotton field – Spiderman – a deckchair – a squirrel - a wolf - a cat - a tree - a leaf - a cow - a goat

Where are they?

The Matterhorn is in	S <i>witzerland</i>
Ben Nevis is in	S
Sierra Nevada is in	S
The Kilimanjaro is in	T
Mount McKinley is in	A
The Popocatepetl is in	M

Mount Everest is in	N
Mont Blanc is in	F
The Grossglockner is in	A
The Eiger is in	S
Mount Elbrus is in	R
Mount Etna is in	I