

Guided Writing

Reading

1 Read the article and choose the best headline.

- ① **A LUCKY ESCAPE**
- ② *On Top of the World*
- ③ **Man Breaks Leg in Climbing Accident**

A climber who fell down a mountain and survived was recovering in the hospital yesterday.

Nikolai Stravoski, 31, was walking with two friends when he slipped on some ice and fell down the side of the mountain. After falling 500 meters, he landed at the bottom, stood up, and walked away. He was walking around looking at a map when rescuers found him.

"It was incredible," said Ernst Braun from the rescue team. "A man called us at 2:00 p.m. We went right away, but we thought that we would only find a body."

"We saw a man standing at the bottom of the mountain and thought it can't be him, but it was. We looked up the side of the mountain and we could see gloves and poles in a line down the side of the mountain."

Luckily, the helicopter was flying when it received the call, so it only took five minutes to reach the site of the accident. Nikolai is in the local hospital, but hopes to be back out climbing very soon.

2 Answer the questions.

- 1 How far did Nikolai fall?
.....
- 2 What was he doing when he was found?
.....
- 3 When did the accident happen?
.....
- 4 Why did the helicopter reach the site so quickly?
.....

Language

Stories

We often use the simple past and past progressive to tell stories.

3 Choose the correct word to complete the sentences.

- 1 Nikolai and his friends *walked* / *were walking* when he *had* / *was having* his accident.
- 2 When he *landed* / *was landing* at the bottom he *walked* / *was walking* away.
- 3 He *fell* / *was falling* five hundred meters.

Linking ideas

We use conjunctions to link two ideas together, e.g. *and*, *but*, *so*.

We use *after*, *before*, and *when* to link ideas where time is important.

We use *and* to link two similar ideas together.

We use *but* when there is a contrast or we are surprised.

We use *so* when we want to talk about a result or consequence.

4 Complete with these words.

when so but and after

- 1 He fell five hundred meters, he is very lucky that he is still alive.
- 2 The rescuers thought Nikolai was dead didn't think the man at the bottom of the mountain could be him.
- 3 Nikolai was very frightened, he wants to go climbing again.
- 4 Most people would stop climbing an accident like that.
- 5 Nikolai was talking to his friends he fell.

Writing

5 Number the paragraphs in the correct order 1-5.

- conclusion
- main part
- summary of story
- what happened next
- what they found

6 Write a story for your school magazine about a lucky escape.

CHECKLIST

REMEMBER TO

- use the simple past and past progressive.
- link sentences with *and*, *but*, *so*, *when*, etc.
- check the order of the paragraphs.