

Finding information – 2

Read the narrative.

Ski surprise!

1. Jenna and her parents were about to embark on their first ever skiing trip with Lola, Jenna's best friend, and her parents. The girls were wild with excitement but Jenna's parents, Bob and Lou, were a little less enthusiastic.
 2. 'Don't worry', soothed Lauren, Lola's mum. 'By the third day of ski school you'll be flying!'
 3. 'That's what I'm afraid of!' muttered Bob as he wondered, not for the first time, why he had agreed to Jim and Lauren's ridiculous idea for a holiday.
 4. After they had settled into their roomy apartment in Austria, they just had sufficient time to hire skis, poles and boots, book into ski school and buy their lift passes, before darkness fell.
 5. At lunchtime the next day, the girls and Jenna's parents met to share stories about their first morning in ski school. Jim and Lauren, who were experienced skiers, were on the higher slopes and would not return before late afternoon.
 6. 'What a laugh!' cried Bob as he told the others how Lou had spent most of the morning lying on the ground like an upturned woodlouse, trying unsuccessfully to regain her position and her composure.
 7. 'Okay, so I wasn't as good as you, Mr Teacher's Pet', retorted Lou huffily. 'But just remember your Grandma's old saying, "Pride comes before a fall".'
 8. As Lauren had predicted, by the third day, the four novices were feeling very comfortable on the slopes and enjoying the freedom of practising their newly acquired skills each afternoon.
 9. 'It's so exhilarating!' sighed Lola, 'Feeling the cold, crisp air bite your face as you whoosh down the hillside. I can't wait for the race on Friday.'
 10. 'Just you be careful, young lady', Jim warned his daughter. 'Don't get carried away in that race. That's how legs get broken.' Lola's parents had been skiing many times before, so Lola heeded her father's advice.
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11. 'What a way to end a holiday!' sobbed Lola.
 12. 'Cheer up, Lola,' comforted her friend. 'It could have been worse. The doctor said his ankle wasn't broken, just badly sprained.'
 13. 'Oh, it's broken all right—his pride I mean. Dad'll never live down the shame of all of us doing so well in our races and him falling while getting off the ski lift.'
 14. 'That's true sweetheart', whispered her mum, 'but I managed to capture the moment and it's a classic. Shall we stick it on the fridge?'



Finding information



Try it out

Use the strategies learnt and practised in *The International Red Cross* to find information and details.

- Work out the keywords and find them in the text.
- Check all answers before you make a decision.

Think!
Read paragraph 3.

1. Who suggested going on a skiing holiday?

2. How were Jenna's parents feeling about the skiing trip?

- (a) excited
- (b) reluctant
- (c) thrilled
- (d) eager

The best answer is .

3. When did the girls and Jenna's parents meet up to discuss their first ski lesson?

- (a) in the morning
- (b) midday
- (c) dinnertime
- (d) lunchtime

The best answer is .

4. What was Bob's Grandma's old saying?

5. Who was described as an upturned woodlouse?

- (a) Lou
- (b) Bob
- (c) Jenna
- (d) Jim

The best answer is .

6. Find words in the text to complete the sentences.

- (a) The four novices were feeling comfortable on the slopes by the _____ day.
- (b) 'What a way to end a holiday!' was said by _____.
- (c) Jim's ankle was _____ but not broken.
- (d) The ski race they competed in was held on _____.

7. Explain why Jim would return home feeling ashamed.

