

The Pacific Crest Trail, Northern California

Reading and vocabulary worksheet · Level B1–B2

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Key vocabulary

terminus	The end point of a route, road or railway line.
traverse	To cross the side of a slope rather than go straight up it.
blaze	A mark cut or painted on a tree to show a route.
spring	A place where water flows naturally out of the ground.
camouflaged	Hidden because its color and pattern match its surroundings.
venomous	Able to injure by injecting venom, usually by a bite or sting.
resupply	To collect new food and equipment during a long trip.
landmark	An object that is easy to see and helps you know where you are.

2. Complete each sentence with a word from the list

You may need to change the form of the word.

1. The southern _____ of the trail is at the Mexican border.
2. The path _____ the valley wall instead of climbing straight up.
3. We filled our bottles at a _____ below the trail.
4. The snake was so well _____ that I almost stepped on it.
5. Rattlesnakes are _____, because they inject venom through fangs.
6. Hikers _____ in a small town every five days or so.

3. Comprehension — answer in full sentences

1. Why do many long-distance hikers find Northern California hard?

2. What is unusual about where the water at Burney Falls comes from?

3. Why does Burney Falls keep flowing strongly in late summer?

4. Why do trail crews sometimes clear fallen trees with hand saws?

5. What is the difference between 'venomous' and 'poisonous'?

6. How does Mount Shasta change the experience of walking this section?

4. Writing

Imagine you are walking a long trail for a month (120–180 words). Write a diary entry for one day: what you carried, what you saw, and what was hardest. Use at least four words from the vocabulary list above and underline them.

5. Talk about it

1. Would you like to walk a trail that takes five months? Why or why not?
2. Volunteers keep this trail open. Should this kind of work be paid?
3. Describe a time you had to plan carefully before a trip.

Read the full article at englishrefresher.com/the-pacific-crest-trail-northern-california/ · English Refresher — free to print and use in class.