

QUIZ: So, You Think You Know Something About the History of Exploration and Geography of the Karakoram-Himalaya. Let's find out...

1. The Scotsman Dr. Alexander Kellas, who spent much of his time climbing in Sikkim, suddenly died while on an expedition in 1922, where is he buried:
a) Scotland b) Sikkim c) Ladakh d) Nepal e) Tibet
2. What mountain did Dr. Thomas Longstaff and team climb in 1907?
a) Nanda Devi b) K7 c) Batura Peak d) Trisul e) Kangchenjunga
3. Edward Norton assumed leadership from Gen. Charles Bruce on what expedition?
a) Mt. Everest 1924 b) Gauri Sankar 1928 c) K2 1939 d) Kamet 1931 e) Hathi Parbat 1920
4. Henry Godwin-Austen was a:
a) Geologist b) Surveyor c) Botanist d) Medical doctor e) Zoologist
5. The Abruzzi Ridge on K2 is named after:
a) Count Filippi de Grasso of Seville b) Duke Marco Albi of Maggi c) Ricardo Genvosse Marquese of Turin d) Phillip Montplier Earl of Doven e) Luigi Amedeo of Savoy
6. What mountain is nicknamed the 'naked mountain'?
a) Rakaposhi b) Haramosh c) Spantik d) Nanga Parbat e) Chaukhamba I
7. What is the largest glacier in the Karakoram-Himalaya in terms of surface area?
a) Baltoro b) Batura c) Siachen d) Biafo e) Hispar
8. What famous mountain photograph was on Freshfields 1899 Expedition as well as the 1909 Duke of Abruzzi Expedition?
a) Emanuel Cardio b) Vittorio Sella c) William Bateson d) Hector de Hernandez e) Emil Sesto
9. What British subject prior to being a Member of Parliament and an art historian at Cambridge University, explored the Karakoram?
a) William Conway b) Bruce Hunt c) Donavan Miles d) Thomas Longstaff e) Frank Smythe
10. Francis Younghusband traversed what pass in the central Karakoram in 1887 enroute from China to India?
a) East Muztagh Pass b) Bilafond La c) Karakoram Pass d) Kongra La e) Shimshal Pass
11. During the summer of 1934 Eric Shipton and Harold Tillman explored what geographic feature that was the key access point into the Nanda Devi Sanctuary?
a) Biska Gorge b) Risha Ganga Gorge c) Sheva Devi Defile d) Tsangpo River Gorge e) Gangi Gora Valley

12. What were the first names of the two most well-traveled female explorers/mountaineers in the Karakoram-Himalaya during the first half of the 20th century? [hint: _____ Visser and _____ Workman]

a) Beatrice, Carol b) Rene, Irene c) Sylvia, Rose d) Julie, Mildred e) Jenny, Fanny

13. Who was the leader of the 1931 successful Kamet Expedition?

a) Frank Smythe b) Eric Shipton c) Harold Tilman d) Huge Ruttledge e) Oscar Dhyrenfurth

14. What is the name of the second highest peak in modern day India?

a) Kamet b) Kangchenjunga c) Kabru d) Nun Kun e) Nanda Devi

15. The eastern most reach of the Tsangpo River flows just south of Gyala Peri (23,930 ft; 7294 m), what is the name of the mountain which lies 13 miles (21 km) to the south-southeast of Gyala Peri?

a) Namcha Barwa b) Yarlong c) Chosen IV d) Disang Puri e) Cholomera

16. What small mountain range did Younghusband traverse in 1887, and the Visser and Mason expeditions of the 1920's explore? This range was further explored by the Shipton-Tilman in 1937.

a) Trans-Himalaya b) Ghompa c) Nagoi Parbat d) Kari Kush e) Aghil

17. Which one of the following passes (cols, la, saddle, etc.) is not located in the Karakoram Range?

a) Shimshal Pass b) Lho La c) Khunjerab Pass d) Bilafond La e) Conway's Saddle

18. The French Expedition of 1950 summited Annapurna I, what peak did they reconnoiter prior to climbing Annapurna?

a) Annapurna IV b) Gangapurna c) Annapurna II d) Machapuchare e) Dhaulagiri I

19. The Central Rimo Glacier is connected via the Italia Col to what other glacier?

a) Batura b) Baltoro c) Teram Sheyr d) Chogo Lungma e) East Khumbu

20. In 1937 Fredrick Chapman and a Sherpa named, Pasang made the first ascent of Chomo Lari (23,996 ft). Where is this mountain located?

a) Bhutan-Tibet border b) Assam c) Nepal d) Nepal-India border e) Pakistan-Tibet border

21. In early topographic surveys of the Karakoram, peaks were generally given the designation, K1, K2, K3.... Some of the 'K names' have been carried over to modern times, most however, have reverted to local names. What is the name of the mountain that was in the earliest surveys given the designation of K1?

a) Ultar Sar b) Disteghil Sar c) Kanjut Sar I d) Changabang e) Masherbrum

See next page for the answers

Answers

1. E- Tibet

Dr. Kellas was a member of the 1922 British Mt. Everest Expedition, he suddenly became sick while on the approach march which at that time was in southeastern Tibet. He had been climbing that winter and spring in Sikkim before joining the Everest expedition. If he had any chronic medical problems, no one on the expedition knew about it. As it turns out he had confessed to a friend some years earlier that he was experiencing some type of health issues, although he never divulged what he was suffering from. He is buried outside the village of Kampa Dzong. He was just shy of 53 years old.

2. D- Trisul

The 1907 expedition was Longstaff's first to the Himalaya-Karakoram. Four members summited Trisul (23,359 ft) on June 11, this included a Gurkha named Kharbir. Trisul translates to "the trident of Shiva". Don't confuse it with Tirsuli (23,208 ft) which is located north of Nanda Devi, some 25 miles NE of Trisul.

3. A- Mt. Everest 1924

General Charles Bruce was the leader but developed a case of malaria early on the trek across southern Tibet, so he was replaced by Major Edward Norton who had been appointed as deputy leader. Norton was an artillery officer in the Indian Army and had been on the 1922 expedition.

4. B- Surveyor

Godwin-Austin was a surveyor with the Survey of India. He ventured around the Baltoro Glacier and the Hushe Valley in the summers of 1860 and 1861.

5. E- Luigi Amedeo of Savoy

Despite being an aristocrat, Luigi Amedeo was a legitimate mountaineer, with climbs in Alaska, the Arctic and central Africa before venturing into the Karakoram in 1909. [all of the other choices were fabrications!]

6. D- Nanga Parbat

Parbat is Urdu for 'mountain', while Nanga means 'naked'. At 26,659 ft (8126 m) Nanga Parbat and its satellite peaks appear to stand alone as they anchor the western boundary of the Himalaya. It has a prominence of over 15,000 ft; it also features two of the planet's great mountain faces; the Diamir (northwest) and Rupal (southeast).

7. C- Siachen

There are a lot of large glaciers to choose from on this list, but the largest is the Siachen located in the eastern Karakoram. The surface area is on the order of 375 mi² (~970 km²) and just under 46 miles in length (74 km). Siachen translates into 'place of the roses' because there are many wild roses bushes growing along the moraines and adjacent hillsides on the southern (lower) sections of the glacier.

8. B- Vittorio Sella

Sella is considered one of the great mountain photographs of all time (the other being Ansel Adams). Consider this: the camera gear was heavy; the images were made on glass plates that were transported from Europe-carried up a mountain-developed-and then transported back to Europe.

9. A- William Conway

Conway was a true Renaissance man. Most early explorers/mountaineers of the late 19th and early 20th century were: well-educated, wealthy and multi-talented. Conway fit this generalization perfectly.

10. A- East Muztagh Pass

There are two other passes in the local region that he could have used from the upper Sarpo Laggo Glacier; the Sarpo Laggo Pass and the Western Muztagh Pass.

11. B- Risha Ganga Gorge

The Risha Ganga Gorge is a very deep defile that cuts through the Garhwal Himalaya and leads to the Nanda Devi Sanctuary. Several other explorers had attempted to penetrate this formidable feature, but Tilman and Shipton with their four Sherpa confederates, were able to solve the problem in 1934. They actually traversed the gorge three times. Besides being the first to pull off this feat, the big payday was being the first humans to explore the awe-inspiring Nanda Devi Sanctuary.

12. E- Jenny, Fanny

There were not very many women explorers in the K-H in those early days; however, two prolific were Jenny Visser (Dutch) and Fanny Workman (American). These ladies were serious explorers: they covered thousands of miles and spent a considerable amount of time at higher elevations.

13. A- Frank Smythe

All of the names on this list were leaders, however Smythe led the successful 1931 Kamet Expedition, which was relatively small compared to most expeditions of that era. Smythe went on to a successful career as a mountain photographer and writer; he is often considered the first person to make a living as a mountaineer. This expedition was also the opening act for Eric Shipton's Karakoram-Himalaya career.

14. E- Nanda Devi

The highest peak in India is Kangchenjunga (28,168 ft; 8586 m) which straddles the border with Nepal. Nanda Devi (25,642 ft; 7816 m) edges out Kamet (25,445 ft; 7756 m) for the second position. ND is the highest peak totally within India.

15. A- Namcha Barwa

For many years Namcha Barwa (25,465 ft; 7762 m) was the highest unclimbed peak. A Japanese expedition in 1992 however put an end to that title.

16. E-Aghil

The compact Aghil Range located in southwestern Tibet (but claimed by Pakistan) is one of the more remote and hence least visited ranges on earth. Even though it is downwind of the towering Karakoram, it does support a number of smaller glaciers. All evidence points to the fact that this range has never seen any long-term habitation.

17. B-Lho La

The Lho La is located to the northwest of Mt. Everest.

18. E-Dhaulagiri I

The French were issued a permit that allowed them to climb in central Nepal. The map they used had in their possession turned out to be lacking in details. They had to spend a considerable amount of time and energy exploring the area. They took a close look at Dhaulagiri I but were put off by its massive east face, it was only after this that they turned their attention to Annapurna I. Even then it was not clear how they could gain access to the base of the peak, that took several more weeks of exploration before a route to the north was found.

19. C-Teram Sheyr

This was a very hard question- the Teram Sheyr is an eastern tributary to the Siachen Glacier and connects with the Central Rimo Glacier at Italia Col. The col was traversed in 1930 by Professor Dainelli. In the first half of the 20th century there was considerable speculation and debate whether Baltis had used the Bilafond-Siachen-Teram Sheyr-Rimo Glaciers as a short cut to the Karakoram Pass and points northward in Central Asia.

20. A-Bhutan-Tibet

Chomo Lari (various spellings) is on the Bhutan-Tibet border. From the Bhutan perspective, it is located in the northwest, which is how Chapman and team approached the mountain in 1937 when they climbed it.

21. E-Masherbrum

It should be noted that most of the larger peaks in the Karakoram as well in the Himalaya were surveyed in the mid to late 19th century from the foothills; often 70 miles to well over 100 miles to the south. The accuracy of which they were surveyed for the first time is a testament to the detail and precision of the work of the surveyors. The tall peak assigned the designation of K1 is today called Masherbrum. It actually has two summits, the east measures in at 25,659 ft, while the west is 25,610 ft. The translation of the name into English is not straight-forward, one suggestion is: muzzle-loading gun mountain. How valid that is remains to be determined, in any case, Masherbrum is just downright fun to pronounce. It would make a great name for a large fury dog.

How well (poorly) did you do?

<u># Correct</u>	<u>Evaluation</u>
21-19	You're an expert
18-15	Solid work
14-10	Not bad
9-5	Keep your day job and keep the faith
0-4	Read my manuscript and keep you day job

This is actually a difficult quiz, so if you did not score well, read *Between Sky and Earth...* then retake the quiz. Before I started to do research on this topic, I probably would have only scored a six or seven!