

Troodos Mountains / Mount Olympus

Worksheet

Guidelines for educators

- **Context and the area of cultural heritage:** natural cultural heritage in Cyprus
- **Description and justification:** The Troodos Mountain (Mt) is the second largest state forest in Cyprus and is at the highest altitude of the island (1,952 meters). Mt. Olympus consists of precious rock formations and has been extensively studied by scientists for its geomorphology. It also allows for important studies of oceanic crustal and mantle sequences. The mountain forms a geopark which consists of nature trails that are a must visit when in Cyprus.
- **Duration:** 45 minutes
- **Language level:** A2
- **Age group** (this should be defined only in case where certain exercises were created for a certain age group): 12-18 years old
- **Prior knowledge:** basic vocabulary about animals, ability to read and understand simple sentences and frequently used expressions, important signs and symbols related to directions, introduction to prepositions of place, knowledge of past and present tenses (simple, continuous & perfect), introduction to future tenses (simple).
- **Thematic area, grammatical and syntactical phenomena (learning objectives):**

In this worksheet students will learn:

- Mountain vocabulary (including animals)
- Reading comprehension
- Practice using present simple, continuous and perfect tenses
- Practice using past simple, continuous and perfect tenses

- Practice using future simple tenses
- Practical uses of prepositions of place for giving directions

○ **Skills developed (or benefits for students):**

At the end of this worksheet, students will:

- Gain increased ability to talk about the mountains
- Learn about one of the most important natural heritage sites in Cyprus
- Learn how to give directions using prepositions of place
- Enrich their vocabulary about mountain animals and mountain exercises
- Practice their oral skills – learn to share experiences, explain something using justifications, etc.
- Practice their reading comprehension skills with mixed tenses

○ **Material needed:** pencils/pens, copies of exercises

○ **References and resources:**

- Allen, E. John B. (2019). *Skiing*. *Encyclopedia Britannica*.
<https://www.britannica.com/sports/skiing>
- Bright, T. (2020). *Snowboarding*. *Encyclopedia Britannica*.
<https://www.britannica.com/sports/snowboarding>
- Britannica, T. Editors of Encyclopaedia (2020). *Hiking*. *Encyclopedia Britannica*. <https://www.britannica.com/sports/hiking>
- Cambridge Dictionary (2021) *Mountain biking*. *Cambridge Dictionary*.
<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/mountain-biking>
- ESLESchool (2021) “Climbing Mount Everest”,
<https://www.esleschool.com/a2-climbing-mount-everest/>
- Smith, G. Alan and Kiesinger, Carol D. (2020) *Mountaineering*.
Encyclopedia Britannica.
<https://www.britannica.com/sports/mountaineering>.
- Visit Cyprus (2020) “Troodos Hiking Trails”, *YouTube*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wN8OOwNJtrM>

Worksheet for the student

EXERCISE 1:

(Duration: 15 minutes)

Task 1: Watch the 4-minute video to get introduced to the Troodos Mountains and its hiking trails: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wN8OOwNJtrM>

Task 2: Read the short text below and try to fill in the missing words to complete the short description about Mount Olympus. There is one extra word. (5 minutes)

Word Bank: Troodos, hiking, highest point, rivers, excursion, mountain, trip, nature trails, animals, flora, forest, altitude, Olympus

A trip to Troodos

Maria's class is planning to take a day _____ to _____, Olympus _____ . Maria loves _____ and she knows many things about Troodos. Her friend has a lot of questions to ask.

- Maria's friend: Maria, is Troodos the tallest mountain in Cyprus?
- Maria: Yes, Troodos Mountain is the _____ in Cyprus at 1,952 meters. It is at the highest _____ of the island. It is also the second largest _____ where you can find rich _____ around the _____. Troodos is the most important source of water as it has many _____. Walking in the nature trails you can also see different kinds of _____, such as birds.
- Maria's friend: Wow, you know a lot of information about Troodos! Let's go there!
- Maria: Take your cameras with you. This is going to be an amazing _____.

Task 3: Help Maria learn about the animals that live in the Troodos mountains before she takes a trip there. Match the name of the animal to its picture. (3 minutes)

Word Bank: Owl, Snake, Eagle, Fox, Mouflon, Tree-creeper



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Task 4: Get into groups of 2-3 to discuss the following: Have you seen any of these animals before? If yes, where did you see them? You have 1 minute each to describe your experiences. (Key point: The mouflon is the national animal and symbol of Cyprus). (3 minutes)

¹ Image Source: Unsplash <https://unsplash.com/> - royalty free

EXERCISE 2:

(Duration: 15 minutes)

Task 1: Reading comprehension. Read the text below and answer the multiple-choice questions. (7-8 minutes)

Katherine Jacobs was the first woman who climbed Mount Olympus. Before she went up the highest mountain in Cyprus, she was a doctor and she lived in Greece. In 2010, Katherine left her job and her family and travelled to Spain with other people who enjoyed mountain climbing. She decided that she wanted to visit every country in Europe and climb its highest mountain there.

In 2020, she decided that it would take her too much to climb all the highest mountains in Europe and decided to end her journey in Cyprus, by climbing Mount Olympus. There, she found that life was hard. "You must carry everything on your back", she explained, "so you can only take things that you will need. In the morning the sun is too hot and in the evening the temperature falls abruptly". Katherine was able to find fresh running water from the streams surrounding the mountain and the waterfalls and she carried some with her to drink. She enjoyed climbing the mountain and she realized that the Cypriot weather made it possible for her to explore other activities as well, such as hiking, skiing, biking and snowboarding. She was also lucky to find a couple of mouflons while she was climbing and was happy to have been able to see Cyprus' national animal from up close.

A. Before Katherine climbed Mount Olympus, she worked as a:

1. Teacher
2. Doctor
3. Nurse

B. Katherine did not take much luggage because she

1. Did not have many things
2. Had a backpack
3. Had to carry it all herself

C. Katherine carried water for

1. Drinking

2. Cooking
3. Cleaning her teeth

D. Katherine enjoyed Mount Olympus especially because

1. The animals were friendly
2. The weather was perfect
3. It offered opportunities for exploring other activities

E. Whilst climbing, she encountered

1. The largest waterfall in the world
2. The Cypriot national animal, the mouflon
3. A herd of sheep

Task 2: Match the definitions to the mountain activities below²: (3 minutes)

1. _____ is the sport of attaining or attempting to attain, high points in mountainous regions, mainly for the pleasure of the climb.
2. _____ is the sport which involves walking in nature as a recreational activity.
3. _____ is a winter sport with roots in skiing, surfing and skateboarding where the primary activity is riding down any snow-covered surface while standing on a snowboard.
4. _____ is a recreation, sport and mode of transportation that involves moving over snow by the use of a pair of long, flat runners called skis.
5. _____ is an extreme sport of riding a bicycle over hills and rough ground.

Word bank: snowboarding, skiing, hiking, mountaineering, mountain biking

Task 3: Get in pairs and take turns to discuss the following question: Have you tried any of the sports mentioned above? Which one is your favourite and why? If you haven't tried any of them, talk about which one you would want to try and why. (5 minutes)

² Definitions adapted from Britannica.com <https://www.britannica.com/>

EXERCISE 3

(Duration: 15 minutes)

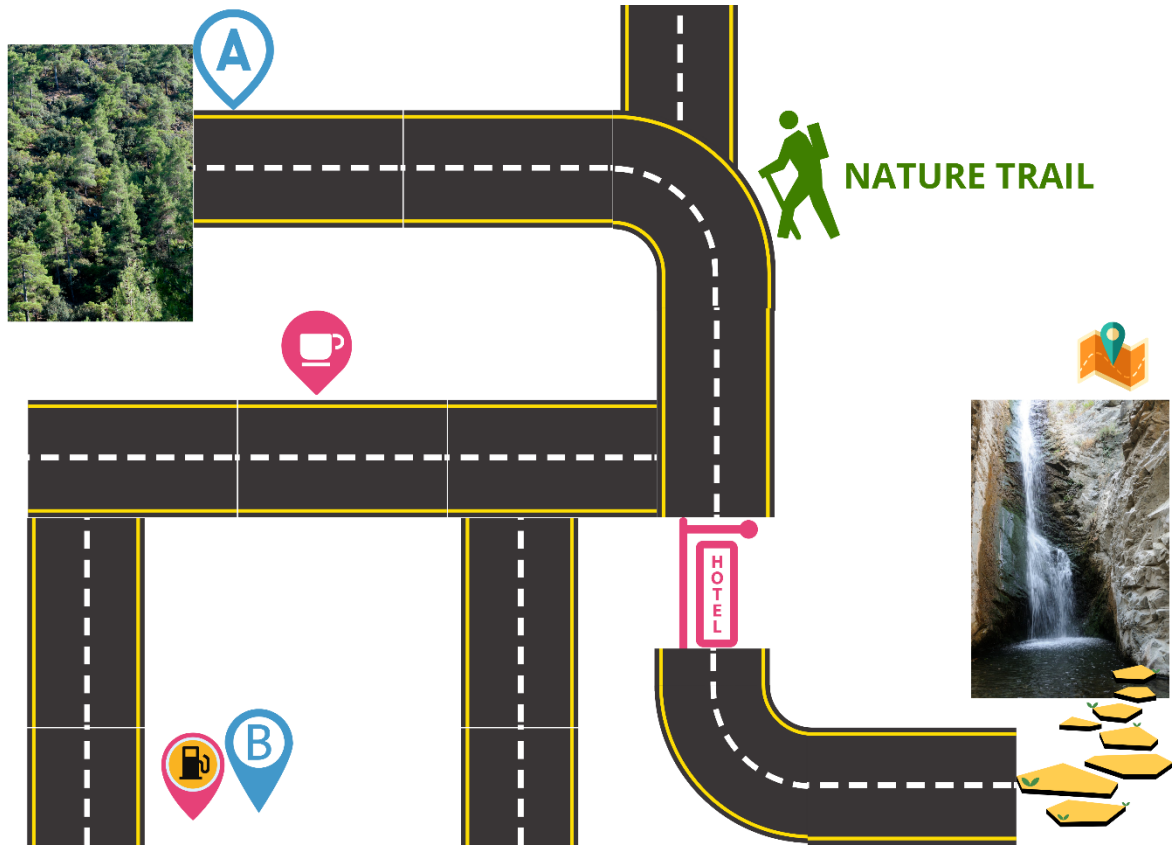
Task 1: Using prepositions of place. Fill in the blanks in the following statements using the appropriate word.

1. My brother got lost _____ (in/at) the mountains
2. Speaker A: Where is the Troodos Hotel?
Speaker B: It's _____ (opposite/left) the Troodos Square.
3. The mouflon's protected area is located exactly _____ (between/in front of) the nature trail that leads to the waterfall.
4. How can I go _____ (at/to) the camping site?
5. Turn _____ (right/down) and then you will see the nature trail in _____ (under/front) of you.

Task 2: Get into pairs. One of you needs to describe to the other how to help Person A get to Person B. (Use prepositions like left/right, turn, down/up, after/before and verbs like go/stop, move, walk) (5 minutes)



Task 3: In your pairs, switch roles and repeat the same exercise. Help Person A get to Person B using the map below. (Use prepositions like left/right, turn, down/up, after/before and verbs like go/stop, move, walk) (5 minutes)



ANSWER KEY

Exercise 1 Task 2:

Maria's class is planning to take a day **trip** to **Troodos**, Olympus **Mountain**. Maria loves **hiking** and she knows many things about Troodos. Her friends ask her a lot of questions.

- Maria's friend: Maria, is Troodos the tallest mountain in Cyprus?
- Maria: Yes, Troodos Mountain is the **highest point** in Cyprus at 1,952 meters. It is at the highest **altitude** of the island. It is also the second largest **forest** where you can find rich **flora** around the **nature trails**. Troodos is the most important source of water as it has many **rivers**. Walking in the nature trails you can also see different kinds of **animals**, such as birds.
- Maria's friend: Wow, you do know a lot about Troodos! Let's go there!
- Maria: Take your cameras with you. This is going to be an amazing **excursion**.

Exercise 1 Task 3:

- Image 1: snake
- Image 2: owl
- Image 3: mouflon
- Image 4: tree-creeper
- Image 5: eagle
- Image 6: fox

Exercise 2 Task 1:

- Question A: 2
- Question B: 3
- Question C: 1
- Question D: 3
- Question E: 2

Exercise 2 Task 2:

- Definition 1: Mountaineering
- Definition 2: Hiking
- Definition 3: Snowboarding
- Definition 4: Skiing
- Definition 5: Mountain biking

Exercise 3: Task 1

- Statement 1: in
- Statement 2: opposite
- Statement 3: in front of
- Statement 4: to
- Statement 5: right

Exercise 3 Task 2:

Answers may slightly differ, depending on how/what you teach to the class, but the answer should be something like: Walk on the main road. When the nature trail is opposite you/in front you, turn right and follow the road to the hotel. Pass the hotel, and as the road turns left, take the nature trail that heads left towards the waterfall. You will see the waterfall opposite/in front of you.

Exercise 3 Task 3:

Answers may slightly differ, depending on how/what you teach to the class, but the answer should be something like: Walk on the main road. When the nature trail is opposite you/in front you, turn right and follow the road to the hotel. Before you get to the hotel, turn right. Take the first left after you pass by the café. You will see the Petrol station on your left-hand side.