

## Dalton categories of questions and Touching the Void

Using the following passage write out questions that will challenge the interpretation of the text.

I kept peering nervously over my shoulder trying to make out the people on the ridge. My heart began racing and I kept sucking in deep nervous breaths. I thought I might burst into tears. Then I spotted the tiny figures huddled around the camera and tried to calm myself. The sense of menace increased when I heard the rattle of rocks tumbling down the valley walls and spurts of dust drifted away on the wind. They were uncomfortably close. I glanced back at the ridge. Come on, come. I want to get out of here. Another volley of rocks spat down towards me. I jerked away instinctively. Seconds later a feeling of all-consuming panic overwhelmed me. I had to run from the place, had to escape. Just as I began to remove the mat strapped to my leg, the radio squawked into life.

'Joe, this is Kevin, do you copy?' I stared at the radio aerial poking from my chest pocked. 'Joe, Joe, do you copy? Are you ready for the take?'

'Kevin, this is Joe. I copy.' I released the transmit button and let out a long sigh of relief.

'Okay, Joe, begin to crawl towards the rocky narrows please. In your own time.' I began to laugh. It had a slightly manic edge. I was not enjoying my return to Peru.

<b>Quantity Questions</b>	How long did he wait on the ledge? What is the greatest length of time an individual can last on a mountain in these circumstances?
<b>Change Questions</b>	Assume Joe falls in this scene. What would the reaction of the film crew be?
<b>Prediction Questions</b>	Consider the passage and highlight the clues that show you how the story might end and justify your choice of phrases and key points.
<b>Points of view Questions</b>	Why is Joe not enjoying his return to Peru?

<b>Personal Involvement Questions</b>	How would you cope with re-enacting a moment in your life for a film crew?
<b>Comparative Association Questions</b>	Compare Joe's expedition with one over a hundred years ago.
<b>Valuing Questions</b>	Re-enacting scenes from the past can bring on delayed stress disorder if they haven't been dealt with appropriately at the time. What impact would it have had on Joe going back to a mountain where he had nearly lost his life?

Name of file: Dalton & void  
Author/Originator: F Cleary  
Date created: Jan 2004  
Links: [www.londongt.org/teachertools](http://www.londongt.org/teachertools)