

Chinese student rescued twice from Mount Fuji

Vocabulary Match

- altitude ● trail ● punishment ● officially ● unable ● warned ●
- formally ● height ● incapable ● penalty ● path ● cautioned

Article

A 27-year-old Chinese student had to be rescued twice from Mount Fuji in Japan. The first time was on April 22, when he got altitude sickness while climbing the Fujinomiya trail, which is about 3,000 metres high. Four days later, he went back to the mountain to look for his phone and other things but got sick again. Another climber found him unable to move.

The police said there is no punishment for being rescued, but many people on social media were angry and said he should pay for the second rescue. Shizuoka police warned climbers to be careful because the mountain is still cold and snowy in spring. Mount Fuji's trails are only officially open from July to September.

Quiz

1. How old is the Chinese student?
2. When did the student first get rescued from Mount Fuji?
3. Why did the student go back to the mountain a second time?
4. What did the Shizuoka police warn climbers about?

Conversation

- A: Did you hear about that student who had to be rescued twice from Mount Fuji?
- B: Yeah, I read about it. He went back to find his phone and got sick again, right?
- A: That's the one. I can't believe he went back just four days later.
- B: It's a bit risky, especially since the trails aren't even open yet.
- A: True. And the mountain's still snowy in spring - it's not safe.
- B: Some people online think he should pay for the second rescue.
- A: I can understand why. It must cost a lot to send rescue teams.
- B: Yeah, but at least he's okay now. Hopefully, he learned his lesson.

Discussion

1. Have you ever climbed a mountain or gone hiking?
2. What should you always take with you when hiking?
3. What would you do if you lost something important on a mountain?
4. Do you think the student should pay for the rescue? Why or why not?