

Adventure Unlimited

Summer Mountain Leader Assessment

Introduction

The Summer Mountain Walking Leader Assessment course is designed to test the suitability of a person who wishes to work with groups in the British mountains in Summer conditions. The assessment course that you are about to undertake is designed to thoroughly test all of the skills required to operate with groups in the mountains.

The following are a few notes from the MLTE regarding the scheme:

“The scheme provides training and assessment in the technical and group management skills required by those wishing to lead groups in the mountains and moorlands of the UK”

“It does not provide a climbing qualification”

It is the combination of technical skills, wide experience and personal qualities which form the basis of effective group management”.

The MLTE have recognised the following areas as the responsibility of the mountain walking group leader. They will be tested during your SML assessment so it is important to have a good understanding of them.

The SML assessment takes place over 6 days in two mountain locations within the UK. The first three days are assessed in the Peak District, and the following three days are assessed on an expedition in the Lake District.

The price of the course covers accommodation in the Peak District, but you will be required to provide your own food. The following two evenings will be spent on a high level camping expedition so there will not be any camping fees.

Note: Your completed logbook should be handed in on the first day of the assessment.

Syllabus

- 1 Group management & responsibilities of a group leader
- 2 Navigation
- 3 Access and conservation
- 4 Walking skills
- 5 Personal equipment
- 6 Campcraft
- 7 Security on steep ground
- 8 Mountainous hazards and emergency procedures
- 9 Weather
- 10 Additional interests (geology, flora, fauna etc).

It is essential that you have a thorough understanding of the syllabus before you arrive for assessment, please refer to the 'Summer Mountain Leader training scheme' prospectus and syllabus for more details.

Programme

You will be expected to supply all your own personal and group equipment for the duration of the assessment. Your choice of equipment will be scrutinised as part of the assessment process!

Day 1:

TIME 9.30am

MEETING PLACE TBC

REQUIREMENTS Please bring MLTE logbook. Also bring appropriate clothing and equipment for a day on the hill. 1:25000 Outdoor Leisure map for Dark Peak (1), 1:50000 Landranger map of Sheffield (110) + compass. Personal transport will be used throughout the assessment.

CONTENT An opportunity to meet your assessors and fellow candidates. A brief outline of the whole course. Details of assessment procedures and explanation of course results. Move on to the hill. Main assessment area for today is navigation and group skills.

READING MATERIALS Mountain Leader Training Scheme syllabus Mountain Craft and Leadership (Langmuir) Hillwalking / Official ML Handbook (Long)

Day 2:

TIME 10.00 am

MEETING PLACE Confirmed on day 1.

REQUIREMENTS 1:25000 Outdoor Leisure map for Dark Peak (1), 1:50000 Landranger map of Sheffield (110), and compass. Be prepared for days on the mountains. Suitable clothing and footwear should be worn. Please supply your own food.

CONTENT Main area of assessment for today is security on steep ground and navigation. A written paper on weather will be handed out for the evening to be returned on the morning of day 3.

Day 3:

TIME 10.00am.

MEETING PLACE Confirmed on day 2.

REQUIREMENTS 1:25000 Outdoor Leisure map of Dark Peak area, 1:50000 Landranger map of Sheffield (110), and compass. Clothing and equipment for days on the hill. Pen and paper. Also bring completed weather paper! A general mountaineering test paper will be handed out for the evening to be returned on the morning of day 4.

CONTENT Some navigation, emergency procedures and route planning for the expedition.

Day 4:

TIME 11am

MEETING PLACE Eskdale, Lakes, GR 213 012.

REQUIREMENTS 1:25000 Outdoor Leisure map of South West Lakes (6), 1:50000 Landranger map of Penrith and Keswick (90), and compass. All personal equipment for two nights camping and walking in the mountains. Please supply your own food, all your group equipment and also bring your completed test paper.

CONTENT Depart for the Lakes and begin the expedition. All elements of the mountain leader syllabus will be under scrutiny during the expedition.

Note: When leading your group you will be expected to show knowledge of the surrounding mountain environment, geology flora and fauna. There will be a night

navigation test on the evening of day 4.

Day 5: Expedition

Day 6: Completion of expedition. Results.

Important Note:

Candidates are being examined for their suitability to lead groups in the mountains in accordance with the MLTE's guide lines. It is essential that you have knowledge of the **whole** syllabus. If there are areas which you did not cover on your training course then you must make every effort to study them. The assessment procedure looks at your skills and knowledge over 6 days and allows your assessors to make a judgement on your suitability as an instructor and award holder.

Please make sure that your log book is thoroughly filled in prior to assessment.

Any course cancellations due to lack of participants will be made no later than 10 days prior to the course start date. If this situation does occur then an alternative date will be given or a full refund made. For MLTE courses the board stipulates a minimum of 4 candidates have to attend the course for it to run.