

### A mountain of waste

- 1 "TAKE ONLY memories, leave only footprints" is more than a clichéd hiking motto at the Sagarmatha National Park in Nepal. The large box of rocks sitting next to the metal detector at the local airport is a testament to that: tourists departing from Mount Everest have to dispose of material they have collected before stepping onto the dauntingly short runway. Fulfilling the second half of this mantra, however, is harder. Tens of thousands of tourists leave more than just footprints. 2-1
- 2 In 2017, 648 people reached Everest's summit, more than seven times the number two decades ago. Currently, their toilet waste is carried and dumped into pits near the town of Gorakshep, an hour's walk down the mountain. The amount of waste is increasing fast. 2-2 When tests were done at nine water sources in the region, seven were contaminated with significant levels of E.coli. The presence of human by-products in the water, like nicotine and sunscreen, suggests that the contamination came from human faeces, rather than that of the many local yaks.
- 3 One innovative solution could help. The Mount Everest Biogas Project, led by two mountaineers, hopes to install a biogas reactor in Gorakshep at the start of next year. All of the faeces from base camp would then be converted into two by-products: fertiliser and ethane gas, possibly for cooking. 2-3



adapted from *The Economist*, 2018

## Tekst 2 A mountain of waste

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Drie van de onderstaande vijf zinnen (a, b, c, d en e) zijn weggelaten uit de tekst (zie 2-1, 2-2 en 2-3).

2p

2 Geef bij elke plaats aan welke zin daar hoort.

Noteer de letter van de zin achter elk nummer op het antwoordblad.

*Let op: er blijven twee zinnen over.*

- a Fortunately, most climbers carry toilet bags which can be disposed of in special drums on the mountain.
- b In which case the mountain would be a little less brown and a little more green.
- c The litter becomes visible when the snow melts, which makes cleaning it up easier.
- d The run-off of dumping sites is infiltrating the region's water channels, some of which feed into wells that supply drinking water.
- e They have created a mountain of faeces, which is becoming an environmental problem.

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### Bronvermelding

Een opsomming van de in dit examen gebruikte bronnen, zoals teksten en afbeeldingen, is te vinden in het bij dit examen behorende correctievoorschrift.