

## 11 Have Tent Will Travel

25 Shall we take a tent? That is the overnight camper's question. A bed be- 14  
#1 55 neath the stars sounds nice. But sometimes it's not practical. Most campers 41  
77 carry some kind of shelter. No one likes to wake up with rain or snow in 69  
105 the face or a soggy sleeping bag. Besides, there are many kinds of light- 91  
133 weight tents made for campers. Some have a floor and a netting over the 120  
#2 158 entrance. This makes them insect-proof, animal-proof, and waterproof. 143  
191 Stakes need not be much larger than a nail. Aluminum poles fold and can 174  
194 be packed within the tent. All in all, a shelter can be quite compact.  
However, the fabric for the tent can be a problem. A nylon tent is light  
to carry, but it can hold moisture inside the tent and cause dampness.  
Waterproof cotton, on the other hand, isn't completely watertight. Campers  
solve the problem by using a cloth tent and placing a nylon or plastic cover  
over it. A shelter need not be a tent. A nylon groundcloth or a large piece  
of plastic can be tied up to trees to give shelter. A poncho can be used for  
the same purpose. 194

When camping, pick a good campsite. An unnoticed gully could turn  
into a waterway if it rains during the night. A gentle stream can become  
a chilly neighbor at night. Choose a place where there is drinking water.  
# 3 Look for sources of fuelwood and try for level-ground. If you're lucky, you  
might even find a place with a view. Pitch your tent where it can get the  
morning sun. This way, it will dry out before you have to pack it away. Note  
where the wind is coming from before pitching your tent. The wind will  
blow off a lake and onto the shore at night. During the day, the wind will  
blow the other way. In some places, rain is rare and tents are not needed.  
A nice spot would be a rocky ledge that holds in the heat and blocks the  
night winds. An overhanging branch will provide a natural roof and clothes  
hooks. Don't camp under dead branches or in the path of rock slides.

# 4 When breaking camp, be sure that your fire is out. Dump water on the  
ashes. Stir them in with the soil until you are sure that all of the embers  
are wet.

### Recalling Facts

1. Most overnight campers carry some kind of
  - a. map.
  - b. shelter.
  - c. weapon.
2. Some tents have a netting over the
  - a. entrance.
  - b. roof.
  - c. wall.
3. The problem with a nylon tent is that it may
  - a. burn easily.
  - b. hold moisture.
  - c. be heavy.
4. Waterproof cotton tents are not
  - a. insect-proof.
  - b. lightweight.
  - c. watertight.
5. Before you leave your campsite, it is important to
  - a. eat a good breakfast.
  - b. wash off your tent.
  - c. put out your fire.

### Understanding the Passage

6. When you go camping, it's a good idea to take along some type of
  - a. guide.
  - b. pet.
  - c. shelter.
7. Aluminum poles are
  - a. heavy.
  - b. lightweight.
  - c. waterproof.
8. Nylon tents
  - a. are very heavy.
  - b. do not weigh much.
  - c. keep animals away.
9. When you choose a campsite, it's a good idea not to camp near a
  - a. rock.
  - b. stream.
  - c. town.
10. This article hints that you should
  - a. choose your campsite carefully.
  - b. never go camping alone.
  - c. stay in your car when you can.