Circle the best choice.

An American teenager has moved a step closer to his dream of standing on top of the world after arriving at Mount Everest's Camp 2 last night.

___ (1) ___ he is successful, Jordan Romero, 13, from California, accompanied by his father and three Sherpa guides, will be the youngest person to conquer Mount Everest. “Team Jordan is doing OK. We are trekking!” he blogged on the morning of Friday 21 May. Their arrival at the 7,500-metre base-camp followed a 2 km, nine-hour climb from Camp 1, at 7,000 metres, according to Romero's blog. “Keep in mind, true walking distances are always ___ (2) ___ farther than point-to-point GPS distances,” he wrote.

The father-and-son team started the trek two days ago, and they expect to reach the 8,850 m summit in a further three to five days, depending on the weather. The teenager, who climbed Kilimanjaro in Africa when he was 10, wrote on his blog that he ___ (3) ___ by a painting in his school of the world's highest summits. “Every step ___ (4) ___ is finally toward the biggest goal of my life, to stand on top of the world,” he blogged.

The record for the youngest climber to scale Everest is held by Temba Tsheri, of Nepal, ___ (5) ___ reached the peak at the age of 16. Romero follows a ___ (6) ___ trend of teenagers taking on challenges traditionally tackled by experienced explorers. Last August, Mike Perham, 17, of Hertfordshire, became the youngest person to sail solo around the world with assistance after technical problems made him stop. Last week, Jessica Watson, from Australia, sailed into Sydney hoping ___ (7) ___ as the youngest person to sail around the world. However, the 16-year-old was accused ___ (8) ___ 2,000 nautical miles short of the required distance.

On the other hand, questions have been raised over the ethics of parents who let their children ___ (9) ___ on dangerous adventures. Last year, 13-year-old Laura Dekker's attempt to become the youngest person to sail solo around the world was prevented by Dutch social services taking legal action to make her a ward of court.

The court questioned her safety and ability to continue her schooling ___ (10) ___ such an adventurous journey and put a temporary block on any expeditions. The teenager later went missing before turning up in the Dutch territory of St Martin, off the Venezuelan coast.
1. c  6. d
2. b  7. a
3. a  8. c
4. b  9. b
5. d  10. c