

ACTIVITY BOOK

THE COLDEST PLACE ON THE EARTH

TIM VICARY



EXERCISES

A Checking your understanding

Chapters 1, 2 and 3 Who said this?

- 1 'I feel like an important man.'
- 2 That flag is going to be first.'
- 3 North Pole, here we come.'
- 4 Fram is going to the Arctic.'
- 5 'Why are we bringing dogs with us?'
- 6 Boys, I know you are unhappy.'
- 7 'It's a ski race, isn't it? And the English can't ski.'
- 8 'Are you going to win?'
- 9 'I know about dogs - they don't work in the Antarctic.'
- 10 We need a lot of food - more than this.'

Chapters 4, 5 and 6 Are these sentences true or false?

- 1 The Norwegians put a wooden house on the ice.
- 2 Amundsen put a lot of flags beside his depots.
- 3 The ponies and dogs worked well together.
- 4 Scott wanted to kill the ponies.
- 5 All the Norwegians worked hard on their equipment.
- 6 Amundsen wanted to start south before Scott, because of the motor sledges.
- 7 Scott's men worked hard on their equipment.
- 8 The Norwegian cook, Lindstrøm, went south with the sledges.
- 9 Johansen was angry with Amundsen.

Chapters 7 and 8 Who in the story:

- 1 wrote an unhappy letter to his mother?
- 2 knew how to drive Scott's dogs?
- 3 nearly fell down a fifty metre hole?
- 4 drove the motor sledges?
- 5 skied up the mountains?
- 6 killed thirty dogs?
- 7 killed the ponies?
- 8 told Teddy Evans to leave his skis behind?
- 9 was the fifth man with Scott's sledge?

Chapters 9 and 10 Who said or wrote this?

- 1 'Good morning, Lindstrøm. Is our coffee ready?'
- 2 "This is a very bad day."
- 3 'My poor, poor husband.'

EXERCISES

- 4 'Am I going to lose these feet, Captain?'
5 'I'm going outside for a minute. I may be some time.'
6 'Please, remember us, and look after our families.'

B Working language

Put together these beginnings and ends of sentences. Check your sentences in chapters 1, 2 and 3.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 When Bjaaland and Amundsen went to the island, | a because they don't work in the Antarctic. |
| 2 It was difficult to get the dogs the ship, | b so our table was often wet and dirty. |
| 3 Let's go to the South Pole | c because they were fat and strong |
| 4 When Scott came off the ship, | d he was very unhappy. |
| 5 I don't like dogs, | e they saw dogs everywhere. |
| 6 When Oates first saw the ponies, | f a newspaper man walked up to him |
| 7 We ate our food in the room under the ponies, | g before the British. |

Use these words to join the two sentences together.

So and then because when but

- 1 Scott didn't make enough depots. His men were hungry.
2 The men's feet hurt. Their boots were bad.
3 The ponies started at ten o'clock. The dogs started at eleven
4 The dogs started later. They ran faster.
5 Seven ponies died. They fell through the ice into the sea.

C Activities

- 1 Most of the men on the two expeditions wrote diaries. Choose one of the men, and write the diary of the journey, as he sees it.
- 2 Imagine you are a newspaper reporter who meets Amundsen and Bjaaland when they come back to Norway. Either a) act out this meeting, or b) write the report of your interview.
- 3 Oates wrote to his mother, and Scott wrote to his wife, before they died.
Write one of these letters.

GLOSSARY

alone: if you are alone you are the only person there
ate: past tense of 'to eat'
boot: a big strong shoe
broken: when an engine cannot move it is broken
buy: to give money for something
came: past tense of 'to come'
camp: a place to stay
captain: the most important man on a ship
could: past tense of 'can'
dangerous: not safe; it may kill or hurt you
depot: a place to leave food and equipment
diary: a book; you write your story in it
Earth: the world; our planet; we all live on it
empty: nothing in it; not full
equipment: the things you need: skis, boots, sledges
flag: every country has one - see picture on page 32
fog: water in the air - you can't see through it
found: past tense of 'to find'
gave: past tense of 'to give'
go on: not to stop
God: (oh my God) something you say when you are very unhappy or afraid
hard: difficult
hole: where you can see through something
ice: cold hard water; you can stand on it
island: land with sea all round it
king: the most important man in a country
knew: past tense of 'to know'
journey when you go a long way, you go on a journey
last: (at last) in the end
lay: past tense of 'to lie'
left: tense of 'to leave'
lie: (v) to go down on the ground
line: one thing after another - the flags by the depot were in a line
look: after: (with animals) to give them food and see if they are OK lost when you are
lost: you do not know where to go
map: a drawing of the land- see picture on page 40
mistake: when you do the wrong thing

GLOSSARY

motor sledge: a sledge with an engine, like a car. It doesn't need men or dogs or ponies to pull it.

mountain: a very big hill

plateau: a high, flat place on a hill Pole the South

Pole: the exact bottom of the Earth

pony: a small horse poor when you feel sorry for someone, you say 'poor man'

pull: to make something move

race: when two or more people try to be first

ran: past tense of 'to run'

reach: to arrive; to get somewhere

sat: past tense of 'to sit'

saw: past tense of 'to see'

ski: (n) a long piece of wood to put your feet on to travel on the snow-see picture on page 20

ski: (v) to use skis

skier: a person who travels on skis

sledge: something to carry food and equipment across the snow-see picture on page 30

snow: cold white rain

snowstorm: a lot of wind and a lot of

spoke: past tense of 'to speak' start to begin; to take the first step

stood: past tense of 'to stand'

stupid: not clever

temperature: how hot or cold it is

tent: a small house made of cloth-see picture on page 32 thought past tense of 'to think'

took: past tense of 'to take' travel to go a long way

unhappy: not happy

went: past tense of 'to go'

win: to be first in a race wind air that moves

wooden: made of wood, from trees

wrote: past tense of 'to write'