

READING TEST “ROUND-THE-WORLD TRAVELLERS”

Task 1. Put a tick about each word or expression in the correct column.

	Weather	Travel nouns	Geographical feature	Cycling	Running	Sailing	Animals
blizzard							
journey							
brakes							
desert							
to pedal							
trip							
freezing temperatures							
mountain							
punctures							
river							
rudder							
to sail							
running shoes							
sea							
storm							
autopilot							
ocean							
to cycle							
to run							
voyage							
wind							
wombat							
yacht							

Task 2. You are going to read 3 articles about round-the-world travellers. First, read the article A and then answer the questions.

Text A

James Bowthorpe, aged 31, became the fastest man to cycle round the globe when he arrived at Hyde Park in London on September 19th 2009. It took him just 176 days to travel through 20 countries on his epic 18 000-mile (29 000 km) journey.

James pedalled out of the English capital, his home town, carrying 30 kilos of gear which included a GPS tracking system, camera batteries and a phone; all powered by a dynamo connected to his bike. He was sponsored by a British newspaper and managed to raise over £ 58 000 for research into Parkinson's disease.

He crossed mountains and deserts, rode along terrifying highways, battled against strong winds, collided with a wombat in Australia, broke his back brake and had to fix numerous punctures. In Thailand he was so ill that he lost a fifth of his body weight and had to spend 3 days in bed to recover. His other low points included being attacked by a gang of men (and then thankfully being rescued by a couple of teenagers).

Most of his encounters along the way were friendly and James was pleased to find that Lance Armstrong, the Tour de France winner was following his trip via Twitter. "For a couple of days I imagined him watching me with his arms folded, shaking his head at my technique," Bowthorpe says.

Who travelled around the world?	
How did he / she travel?	
How long did the journey take?	
What problems did he / she have?	

Task 3. Now read the article B and answer the questions about it.

Text B

Rosie Swale Pope, a grandmother from Wales, took five years to run around the world. She was 61 when she completed her round-the-world trip in August 2008. Her 20 000 mile (32 190 km) journey, which took her through the Northern Hemisphere including Europe, America, Greenland and Iceland, raised funds for a Russian orphanage and promoted cancer awareness.

Rosie carried her equipment on a small trailer as she ran. She either camped at night or stayed with people she met on the way. She met lots of people on route; most of them friendly. She received 29 proposals of marriage (9 of them in Poland) and was rescued from the snow during a blizzard by a local in Alaska.

Did she encounter any difficulties? As well as being hit by a bus, experiencing freezing temperatures and suffering from pneumonia, she was knocked unconscious by an axeman as she was crossing a river. She also had to replace her running shoes 45 times.

Who travelled around the world?	
How did he / she travel?	
How long did the journey take?	
What problems did he / she have?	

Task 4. Finally, read the article C about one more round-the-world traveller and then answer the questions.

Text C

Mike Perham was just 16 when he set off to circumnavigate the globe. He celebrated his 17th birthday alone in the Indian Ocean on his 50-foot (15 m) racing yacht.

A birthday party for one might not sound like much fun to the average teen. Other less enjoyable parts of the trip included numerous stops to repair the yacht's rudder and autopilot, accidentally falling overboard into the water and terrible storms in open sea. One of the most tedious aspects of the trip was having to put up with a diet of 'icky' freeze-dried food.

Against these odds British teenager, Mike completed his 28 000 mile (45 000 km) sea voyage in 9 months and became the youngest person to sail solo around the world in August 2009.

Many people say that 16 is too young to sail around the world alone. But Mike's father was confident that his son had the physical strength, mental capacity and technical ability necessary for the trip.

Who travelled around the world?	
How did he / she travel?	
How long did the journey take?	
What problems did he / she have?	

Task 5. Now reread all the stories. Answer the questions by choosing the name of the traveller: James, Mike or Rosie. You can select more than one name for some of the questions.

	James	Mike	Rosie
1. Who travelled around the world the faster?			
2. Who travelled furthest?			
3. Who was sponsored?			
4. Who raised money for charity?			
5. Who got ill?			
6. Who fell in the sea?			
7. Who repaired or replaced equipment?			
8. Who had the most romantic trip?			
9. Who was followed on the internet by a famous sports person?			

Task 6. Write a short paragraph (60-80 words) to answer the question “Would you like to travel round the world? Why/ Why not?”

