



1 Explorers

Before you start

1 Look at the photos. Answer the questions for each photo.

- 1 Where do you think the people are?
- 2 When and why do you think they went there?
- 3 How do you think they travelled?
- 4 How do you think they felt when they got there?

Now read the text quickly and check your guesses.



Captain Scott and his companions

On 1 June, 1910, Captain Scott left London to begin his Antarctic expedition. He received a telegram from the Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen: 'I'm going South.' So the race to the South Pole was on!

During the polar summer of 1910–11, both teams organised food stores – they put food in tents along their route in preparation for their expeditions the following year. Then came the darkness of the polar winter. Scott and Amundsen waited for the first signs of spring.

Amundsen was the first to leave on 15 October, 1911. He had teams of dogs pulling his sledges and all his men were on skis. Because of this, he made good progress. Scott left on 1 November and soon had problems. First, his two motor sledges broke down and then his ponies began to have serious difficulty with the snow and the cold. After a while, Scott and his men had to push the sledges themselves.

Amundsen reached the Pole on 14 December and put a Norwegian flag there. Then he prepared for the return journey.

Scott finally arrived at the Pole with four companions on 17 January and found the Norwegian flag. Scott wrote of their disappointment in his diary:

'Well, we lost the race and we must face 800 miles of hard pushing – and goodbye to most of our dreams.'

The return journey was one of the worst in the history of exploration. The men were exhausted and were running out of food. The weather conditions were terrible. Scott began to realise their desperate situation: *'We appear very cheerful but what each man feels in his heart, I can only guess. Putting on our shoes in the morning is getting slower and slower.'*

The expedition wasn't completely unsuccessful because on their way back, they looked for rocks and fossils as planned. They carried twenty kilos of rocks all the way with them. Later, these rocks proved that in the distant past Antarctica was covered by plants.

However, disaster soon came. One of the men, Edgar Evans, died after a bad fall. The next to die was Captain Oates, who was having difficulty in walking. Scott recorded his death sadly in his diary:

'He said, "I am just going outside and I may be some time." We knew that poor Oates was walking to his death. We tried to stop him but we knew that it was the act of a brave man and an English gentleman. We all hope to meet the end with a similar spirit, and certainly the end is not far.'

Scott and the last two men carried on and got within eleven miles of one of their food stores. But then a storm started and they could not leave their tent. Scott spent his last hours writing. He wrote a letter full of sadness to his wife, Kathleen: *'To my Widow, I could tell you lots about this journey. What stories you would have for the boy ... But what a price to pay.'*

Scott's diary told the story of their sad end:

'The food is only 11 miles away but I do not think we can hope for any better things now. We are getting weaker and weaker and the end can't be far ... I do not think I can write more.'

The news of Scott's death and disastrous expedition shocked the world. He had failed to win the race to the Pole but the remarkable bravery shown by Captain Scott and his men made them into heroes.



Roald Amundsen



Reading

2 Read the text more carefully.
Are these statements true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 ☐ Scott and Amundsen started their journeys in the polar spring.
- 2 ☐ Scott's use of motor sledges and ponies was a success.
- 3 ☐ Amundsen travelled more quickly than Scott.
- 4 ☐ When they got to the Pole, Scott celebrated.
- 5 ☐ Captain Oates went out and got lost in a storm.
- 6 ☐ Scott's last letter was to his wife.

3 Read the Strategies.

READING STRATEGIES: Multiple-choice questions

- Read the questions and the alternative answers (a–c).
- Decide what kind of information you are looking for (e.g. a date, a description).
- Find the part of the text where you think the answer is.
- Read that part carefully and choose an answer – according to the text.
- Remember, you may have to 'read between the lines' – the answer does not always have the same words as one of the alternatives!
- Make sure the other alternatives are not possible answers.

Now choose the best answer (a, b or c) according to the text.

- 1 Amundsen started for the South Pole on ...
a 15 October, 1911. b 1 November, 1911.
c 14 December, 1911.
- 2 Scott's expedition first had problems because ...
a his ponies had difficulties. b the men were hungry. c his motor sledges didn't work.
- 3 When Scott's expedition arrived at the Pole, the men felt ...
a cheerful. b disappointed. c relieved.
- 4 Scott's men collected rocks and fossils because ...
a they had lots of free time. b it was part of their original plan. c they were interested in geology.
- 5 Scott couldn't get to the food store because ...
a he wasn't strong enough. b the weather was too bad. c the tent was too far away.

4 Discuss these questions.

- 1 Why did Amundsen succeed and Scott fail?
- 2 What do you think Scott's expedition achieved?
- 3 Why did Scott and his men become heroes?
- 4 How did you feel when you read the story?

5 Your Culture What explorers, climbers or travellers do you know in your country? What have they done?

Vocabulary: Wordbuilding

6 Look at the words in *italics*. Are they a noun, verb, adjective or adverb?

- 1 The Norwegian expedition was *successful*.
- 2 They *succeeded* in reaching the Pole first.
- 3 They completed their objective *successfully*.
- 4 Scott's expedition was not a *success*.

7 Work in pairs. Make adjectives, adverbs and verbs from the nouns below (if possible). Use the Mini-dictionary to help you.

ambition, bravery, death, desperation, difficulty, exhaustion, explorer, organisation, sadness, success

Example

ambitious (adj), *ambitiously* (adv) – verb not possible

8 Complete the sentences. Use the word in brackets to make a new word. All the new words are in the text.

- 1 _____ for the expedition began during the polar summer. (prepare)
- 2 They couldn't travel in the _____ of the polar winter. (dark)
- 3 Scott knew that _____ was near (die).
- 4 The expedition was _____ (disaster) but Scott is a legend in the world of _____ (explore).
- 5 His men are remembered for their _____ (brave) in the face of great _____ (difficult).

Speaking

9 Work in pairs. Take turns to say sentences about the two expeditions. Use words from Exercises 7 and 8.

Example

A *Amundsen was a great explorer.*

B *Yes, he prepared for his journey well.*

10 Work in pairs. Student A reads about Marek Kamiński on page 129. Student B reads about Helen Thayer on page 130.

Now find out about your partner's explorer. Ask questions about:

- nationality • age • main expeditions
- greatest journey • method of travel
- aims of the journey • other interests and activities

Example

Where is Helen Thayer from? How old is she?

QUOTE ... UNQUOTE

'The main thing is just to go!'

Marek Kamiński, Polish explorer. (1964–)

1 Word Power

1 Match these words with their definitions.

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 1 Antarctic | a a woman whose husband has died |
| 2 explorer | b the farthest point that you can travel to if you go south |
| 3 fossil | c an old-fashioned method of electronic communication |
| 4 South Pole | d an animal or plant that has turned into stone |
| 5 sledge | e the large, cold region at the bottom of the world |
| 6 telegram | f a portable type of accommodation |
| 7 tent | g someone who likes to discover new geographical areas |
| 8 widow | h a vehicle that can travel over snow and ice |

2 Parts of speech

Complete the table. Use the Mini-dictionary to help you with new words. Then complete the sentences below, using words from the table.

noun	verb	adjective	adverb
1 success	succeed	successful	successfully
2	sadden	sad	
3 bravery	XXXXXXX		
4 disaster	XXXXXX		
5		failing	XXXXXXX
6 desperation			
7	darken		darkly
8	XXXXXXX		ambitiously
9		exhausted	
10		dying /dead	XXXXXX

- The journey to the South Pole ended successfully for Amundsen.
- It was with great _____ that we heard that the explorer had died.
- The climber collapsed _____ at the foot of the mountain.
- Captain Oates _____ walked into the snow.
- It was a _____ idea from the start. We knew that it wouldn't work.
- Pessimists thought that the expedition was going to be a _____ but it turned out to be a huge success.

- The explorers started to _____ when their food ran out.
- The sky began to _____ with snow clouds.
- It's always been my _____ to try parachuting.
- Scott's diaries, written in his last days, contain his _____ words and thoughts.

3 Complete the sentences with a noun made from the word given in brackets.

- They experienced many difficulties but the expedition was a success. (difficult)
- They failed because of their lack of _____. (prepare)
- The _____ of space began in the 1960s. (explore)
- The road was wet so the old lady had a _____. (fall)
- The UN is an international _____. (organise)
- Rose couldn't hide her _____ at her exam results. (disappoint)

4 Write sentences about yourself and your family and friends using the correct form of the following words.

success, brave, disappoint, ambition, fail

My uncle is a successful writer.

Remember

Time expressions



Mini-Grammar 12.1a and 12.2b

1 Write these time expressions in the correct column.

always, at present, at the moment, now, often, regularly, usually

Present Simple	Present Continuous

2 Now write a sentence for each time expression that is true for you, your friends or your family.

My mother always gets up at half past six.

3 Rewrite these Present Perfect sentences using the correct word in brackets in the correct place.

- 1 Have you been to Paris? (ever/never)

Have you ever been to Paris?

- 2 Look! Your brother has come in. (usually/just)

- 3 I've tried to read *War and Peace* but I always find it too difficult. (usually/often)

- 4 We've visited the Czech Republic. What's it like? (sometimes/never)

- 5 Peter has given me his homework on time but usually it's been late. (sometimes/never)

- 6 Have you been to the cinema with Tom? (ever/always)

- 7 They've done their homework. Here it is. (already/yet)

- 8 They haven't done their homework. It's for next week. (already/yet)

- 9 I've worked here ten years. (since/for)

- 10 I've worked here 2000. (since/for)

4 Write the sentences using the correct tenses in brackets.

- 1 you/like/programmes about exploration? (Present Simple)

Do you like programmes about exploration?

- 2 The dogs/pull/the sledge. (Present Continuous)

- 3 I/not bring/the map with me. (Present Perfect)

- 4 They/not make/much progress with their expedition. (Present Continuous)

- 5 He/cross/the Atlantic many times. (Present Perfect)

- 6 you/read/this travel book? (Present Perfect)

- 7 They/not speak/English. (Present Simple)

2 Grammar

PRESENT SIMPLE, PRESENT CONTINUOUS AND PRESENT PERFECT

1 ★ Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets: the Present Simple or Present Continuous.

- 1 I'm speaking (speak) to Tom on the phone now.
- 2 It (get) very hot. I think we should get out of the sun.
- 3 I (think) we should stop now because it (get) dark.
- 4 You (look) serious. What (you think) about?
- 5 I (taste) this soup to see if it's hot enough.
- 6 Why (you/smell) that meat? Is there something wrong with it?
- 7 Bob (love) roses because they (smell) so nice.
- 8 We (have) dinner now but I'll help you later if you (have) a problem.

2 ★ Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets: the Present Simple, Present Continuous or Present Perfect.

- 1 John (not work) for a big company before.
- 2 (you/learn) Portuguese this year?
- 3 I (be) to Poland before.
- 4 You (not do) your homework so you can't watch TV.
- 5 (you/learn) a lot about football when you watch good players?
- 6 Jean (read) a lot before she goes to university in September.
- 7 (you/finish) with that book?
- 8 Tom (not eat) meat. He's a vegetarian.

3 ★ ★ Complete the questions in the dialogue with the correct form of the verb in brackets: the Present Simple, Present Continuous or Present Perfect.

Lisa: (1) Have you ever been (you/ever go) to South America?

David: No, never. Why?

Lisa: I'm going there in October!

David: (2) (you/like) visiting foreign countries?

Lisa: Yes! I love it!

David: Hmm. I don't.

Lisa: So (3) (you/always have) your holidays in this country?

David: Yes – it's much easier. Everyone speaks English!

(4) (you/learn) Spanish for your trip?

Lisa: Of course!

David: And (5) (you/read) a lot of books about South America?

Lisa: Yes. Well, one book. (6) (you/read) travel books in your spare time?

David: Yes – I like books by Bruce Chatwin. (7) (you/read) any books by him?

Lisa: No. (8) (he/write) any books about South America?

David: Oh yes! There's a great one called *In Patagonia*.

4 ★ ★ Complete the text with the correct form of the verb in brackets: Present Simple, Present Continuous or Present Perfect.

Jason Peters (1) (be) a wildlife cameraman. He (2) (film) wild animals for documentary programmes on TV. For fifteen years, as part of his job, he (3) (explore) the world's jungles and rainforests. Snakes (4) (bite) him more times than he can remember and alligators (5) (attack) him, too. At the moment he (6) (prepare) to go back to the Amazon. He (7) (love) filming there but another reason is that his girlfriend, Carmen, (8) (live) in Manaus, near the Amazon. Peter and Carmen (9) (work) together when they can. They (10) (film) in Venezuela several times. While they were there, they lived with the Matis Indians. 'The Matis (11) (eat) monkeys,' says Jason, 'but they (12) (not eat) other animals which are part of their religion. At the moment I (13) (study) them and the Amazon people and I (14) (try) to compare the two. I (15) (find) books about the Amazon people to help me but there's nothing about the Matis. I'll have to write something myself!'

5 ★ ★ Write the sentences again, using the word or words in brackets instead of the underlined word or words. Make the necessary changes to your sentences.

- I'm reading a book about microlights at the moment.
(often) I often read books about microlights.
- We've travelled to China on holiday for the last five years.
(every year) _____
- We eat a lot of fish every week.
(at the moment) _____
- Pauline Jones has worked at a travel agent's since 2004.
(this year) _____
- Brian often makes journeys to some unusual places.
(for the last five years) _____
- We always prepare for adventure holidays.
(now) _____

6 ★ ★ Complete the dialogue with the correct form of the verb in brackets: Present Simple, Present Continuous or Present Perfect.

A television programme about the British Snowboarding Championships in Switzerland

Simon Peters: Hello, I'm Simon Peters. Welcome to the British Snowboarding Championships, high up in the mountains in Laax, in Switzerland. Even though Britain only (1) _____ (get) about 10 cm of snow a year, each spring hundreds of people (2) _____ (enter) the championships, which (3) _____ (take place) in Switzerland every year. We (4) _____ (organise) the championships here in Laax three times before, in 1999, 2001 and 2003. Here with me is British women's champion Barbara Benson. Barbara, you (5) _____ (win) this championship twice before, but you (6) _____ (not win) in Laax, is that right?

Barbara Benson: Yes, that's right, but I really (7) _____ (want) to win this year. I (8) _____ (like) snowboarding here but I (9) _____ (never win) here even though I (10) _____ (try) really hard in the past!

Simon Peters: Well, good luck, Barbara. And now here is the British men's snowboarding champion, Trevor Griffiths. Trevor, you (11) _____ (have) no fixed home at all at the moment. Is that right?

Trevor Griffiths: That's right. I (12) _____ (live) everywhere – wherever the snow is – New Zealand, France, ...

Simon Peters: ... and where (13) _____ (you/live) at the moment?

Trevor Griffiths: Here, of course. I (14) _____ (stay) in a small hotel.

Simon Peters: And (15) _____ (you/enjoy) your stay in Switzerland?

Trevor Griffiths: Yes. But I (16) _____ (practise) for the championships every second I (17) _____ (get), so I (18) _____ (not have) much time for anything else.

7 ★ ★ ★ The sentences below are not correct. Write them again correctly.

- ~~I can't tell you anything about Peter's boat because I never see it.~~
I can't tell you anything about Peter's boat because I've never seen it.
- We have dinner now. Could I call you back later?
- How long do you live here?
- Grandma and Grandad are visiting us every Friday.

Word Corner

1 Write the names under the correct continent.

Kamchatka, Nigeria, the Amazon, New Guinea, Aborigines, the Gobi Desert, the Namib Desert, Siberia, Namibia, China

Africa	Asia	Australia	America

2 Write these words in the correct column.

canoe, sledge, microlight, horse, camel, parachuting, on foot, trek, sailing, cruise

air	water	land