## UNIT 3 C

## READING AND GRAMMAR

**1 A** Read the introduction to the text and look at the pictures. Answer the questions in pairs.

1. How long do you think Alastair's trip took?
2. How many countries do you think he visited?
3. What type of problems do you think he had on the trip?
4. What kind of person do you think Alastair is?
5. Would you like to go on an adventure like this? Why/Why not?

**B** Read the rest of the text and check your answers.

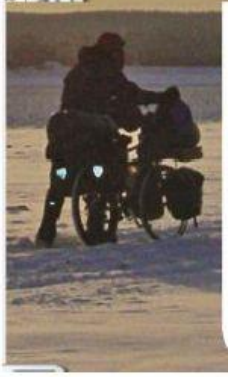
# Around the world by bike

**In 2001, Alastair Humphreys was studying to become a teacher, but he really wanted to do something different. A few months later, he surprised his friends and family by beginning an amazing trip that took him around the world ... on his bike!**

In all, Alastair visited 60 countries and, throughout the trip, he kept a blog to record all of his experiences. Although there were some special moments on the road, there was also disappointment and disaster.

One disappointment came early. Alastair's dream was to ride his bike all the way, except for taking ships to cross the oceans. Unfortunately, this was impossible. The police stopped him while he was traveling through Egypt, and he had to ride in the back of a truck. He was angry, but there was no other way to continue.

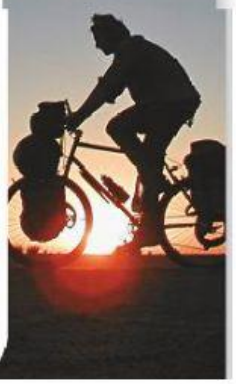
The rest of the time, he rode, rode, rode. On one occasion, his bike broke down while he was crossing the Arizona desert. Help came from a surprising place. To his amazement, complete strangers bought him a new bike so that he could continue his incredible journey.



The trip was tough, and Alastair didn't have enough money to stay at nice hotels. While he was riding through Patagonia, he didn't take a shower for 24 days!

However, one of the hardest parts of his trip came when he traveled through Russia in the winter. Luckily, a friend joined him, so he wasn't traveling alone. But it was so cold that Alistair's beard froze while they were traveling through Siberia.

But none of these problems could stop him from completing the trip. Four years and 75,000 km. later, Alastair finally arrived back home in the U.K. with lots of stories to tell.



**A** Complete the sentences with the correct verbs. Check your answers in the text.

1 He _____ the Arizona desert when his bike _____ down.
2 While they _____ their bikes through Siberia, Alastair's beard _____ .

1 Which verbs describe completed actions in the past? _____ , _____
2 Which verbs describe actions happening at the time of the completed action? _____ , _____