

4 Complete the text with the correct forms of the verbs below. Only use a form of *be able to* if no other verbs are possible.

(not) be able to can / can't could / couldn't  
managed to / didn't manage to



The Antarctic is a hostile environment to explore.

Not only <sup>1</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ the temperature drop well below -50°C, but also fierce blizzards sometimes mean not <sup>2</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ leave your tent for days on end. And yet the region has always fascinated explorers, many of whom go there hoping <sup>3</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ reach the South Pole. The first person to reach it was the Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen, who <sup>4</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ get there in December 1911. A British expedition led by Robert Scott also <sup>5</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ reach the Pole, but 33 days after Amundsen. Tragically, Scott and his men <sup>6</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ complete the return journey, and died.

Improvements in transport and communications mean that these days anyone <sup>7</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ visit the Antarctic, and several holiday companies offer excursions there. In the future, though, new laws <sup>8</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ limit the number of visitors, in order to protect the natural environment and wildlife.

5 Write a true sentence about the Antarctic.



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