## CLB 3-Famous Canadians-Reading Skill Building

## Tommy Douglas: A Canadian Hero

Tommy Douglas was a special person in Canada. He was born in 1904 in Scotland, and his family moved to Canada when he was a child.

Tommy cared about fairness and helping people. First, he worked as a minister. But then, he decided to help in a different way – by being a politician.

In the 1940s and 1950s, Tommy was the leader in Saskatchewan, a part of Canada. He was the boss there for more than 17 years. During this time, he made good rules to help regular people.

One of his best ideas was about health. In 1962, Tommy made it so that everyone, no matter how much money they had, could go to the doctor without paying a lot of money. This is called "universal healthcare." It means everyone can get help when they are sick.

Tommy was also part of starting a new political group called the New Democratic Party (NDP). This group still helps Canada today.

In 1981, people voted Tommy Douglas as the "Greatest Canadian." This showed how much they liked and respected him. Tommy Douglas passed away in 1986, but people still remember him as a hero who made Canada a better place.

**Reading Comprehension Questions**

1. Where was Tommy Douglas born?
   - a) Canada
   - b) Scotland
   - c) England

2. When was he born?  _____

3. How long was he a leader of Saskatchewan?
   a. 1940s          b. 1950s              c. more than 17 years

4. What did Tommy Douglas do for healthcare in Saskatchewan?
   - a) He made it free for everyone.
   - b) He made it expensive.
   - c) He did nothing.

5. What is universal health care?

_____

6. What is the name of the political party Tommy Douglas helped start?
   - a) Liberal Party
   - b) New Democratic Party (NDP)
   - c) Conservative Party

7. When was Tommy Douglas voted the "Greatest Canadian"?
   - a) 1962
   - b) 1981
   - c) 1986

8. Tommy Douglas is still alive.
   a) True        b False