YOUNG HEROES: JADE HAMEISTER

Imagine this. You're fourteen years old. You've just taken up skiing. And now you're inside the Arctic Circle. You've skied over 100 kilometres pulling a fifty-kilogram sled behind you. You've climbed over high walls of frozen rocks. It's freezing: minus 30°C! You're scared. You haven't come across any polar bears yet, but the ice under your feet keeps moving. You're afraid you might fall into the ocean or get lost.

You come to a hole in the ice. It's like a river. It's too long to go around. You've crossed similar rivers by making a bridge with your sleds. But this one is too wide. What do you do?

This is the problem that Australian Jade Hameister and her father, Paul, had to solve. It seemed impossible. But they didn't give up and go back home. Instead, they floated across the water on their sleds. Then they carried on. Finally, on 24 April 2016, after a journey of 150 kilometres that began on 13 April, they arrived at the North Pole.

Since then, Jade has crossed the Greenland ice cap and skied to the South Pole. (In 2017 she ate an Antarctic Christmas dinner at minus 50°C!) She's also written a book, been in a National Geographic documentary and given TED talks on climate change and women in society. Jade believes young women should try to live their dreams. She often tells them not to wait until they think they can do something perfectly. She says it's better to just get started.

FACT BOX



Jade Hameister

- From Melbourne, Australia
- Born 5 June 2001
- At twelve years old she hiked to Everest Base Camp (5,000 + metres high)
- At fourteen she became the youngest person ever to ski to the North Pole
- At fifteen she skied 550 km across the Greenland ice cap
- At sixteen she became the youngest person ever to ski to the South Pole

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1 Find the things below in the photo.

backpack ski boots ski poles skis sled
waterproof jacket waterproof trousers



2 9.8 Read the article and tick (✓) four problems Jade faced when she skied to the North Pole.

1 ☐ She got lost.
2 ☐ It was really cold.
3 ☐ She had to pull a heavy sled.
4 ☐ She had to cross walls of ice.
5 ☐ The ice changed position under her feet.
6 ☐ She didn't have the right equipment.

3 Read the article again and complete the notes with a word or a short phrase in each gap.

- Age when Jade went to the North Pole: [1] *14 years old*
- Lowest temperature during her journey to the North Pole: [2] _____
- What they used to get across the hole in the ice: [3] _____
- Date Jade reached the North Pole: [4] _____
- Distance Jade skied to get to the North Pole: [5] _____
- Topics Jade has spoken about in public: women and [6] _____

4 9.9 **WORD FRIENDS** Match the highlighted phrasal verbs in the article with the definitions. Listen and check.

1 Started doing a new activity. *taken up*
2 Return to a place.
3 Stop trying to do something.
4 Continued doing the same thing.
5 Find a thing or person without trying to.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

5 Complete the text with the correct form of phrasal verbs from Exercise 4.

Jade tries to stay positive when she [1] *comes across* a problem. She didn't [2] _____ skiing until she was a teenager. It wasn't easy at first, but she didn't [3] _____ . She [4] _____ practising until she was good at it.

VIDEO

WIDER WORLD

6 44 Watch two people talking about getting lost. Write down what happened to them and what they did.

7 Think of a true story when you got lost. In pairs, take turns to say what happened and how you felt.

LIVEWORKSHEETS