

# INTREPID TRAVELLERS

*Read the text and decide if the sentences below talk about Annie (A), Lexie (L) or both (B)*

## ANNIE LONDONDERRY

On 27th June 1894, a woman called Annie Kopchovsky began an amazing journey. She was only 24 and managed to go around the world on a bicycle. When she began the journey, she had never ridden a bike before, apart from two quick lessons in the days just before starting. So, what made her begin such a difficult journey? Two rich men in Boston had a bet. One said that a woman was incapable of cycling around the world, the other disagreed. Annie accepted the challenge. She had just 15 months to complete the journey. When she set off, she was wearing a very long, impractical skirt and her bike was incredibly heavy, but she soon changed both. A company called the Londonderry Lithia Spring Water Company paid her \$100 to put a Londonderry sign on her bike and to use Londonderry as her last name. In fact, to pay for the trip she advertised anything, from milk to perfume. She also sold photographs and autographs and gave talks about her adventures. In her talks, she said she had hunted tigers in India, fought a war and fallen in a frozen river in Japan. People loved her stories, whether true or not.

Londonderry returned to America on 23rd March 1895. By the time she arrived in Chicago, her journey had taken exactly 15 months. People wanted to hear her stories and she began writing about them in a New York newspaper. Her first article began: 'I am a journalist and a "new woman", if that term means that I believe I can do anything that any man can do.'

In 2019, a 21-year-old woman from California called Lexie Alford became the youngest person to travel to every country in the world. The last of the world's 196 countries that Lexie visited was North Korea on 31st May 2019. The first was when she was just a child. Of course, the fact that Lexie's family are travel agents probably helped her. By the time she was only 18, she had already travelled to 72 countries! Travelling around the world, often alone, wasn't easy. In fact, one of the hardest parts was getting visas. In some cases, she applied once and then she tried again and again until she finally got it. Visiting so many countries isn't cheap either. Lexie paid for her trips by selling photos, writing articles and advertising different products on social media. But apart from that she was also careful to budget her money. She looked for cheap accommodation such as hostels and didn't waste money on smartphones or wi-fi. So why did Lexie try to break the record? She said that one of her goals was to inspire other people, particularly young women. Lexie's experiences show that the world is a welcoming and friendly place. In some cases, it isn't portrayed this way, so Lexie was happy to show a more positive side. She was surprised to find that some of the most incredible countries she visited were ones that she hadn't expected to be very interesting, including some countries that some people consider to be quite dangerous

1. They were under 25 when they finished what they were trying to do. **A / L / B**
2. It took them under two years to do it. **A / L / B**
3. They did it to show that somebody else was wrong. **A / L / B**
4. They tried not to spend much when travelling. **A / L / B**
5. They said they were part of some dramatic and dangerous incidents. **A / L / B**
6. They wrote about their adventures. **A / L / B**
7. They changed their name to advertise a product. **A / L / B**
8. They changed their mind about some places after going there. **A / L / B**