

Before you watch**1 SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Answer the questions.

- 1 Which famous explorers do you know?
- 2 Where were they from and where did they go?
- 3 How did they travel?

Comprehension check**2**  Watch the DVD clip. Are the sentences true or false?

- 1 Robert Falcon Scott had been an explorer for many years when he became captain of the *Discovery*. **true / false**
- 2 It took over a year to travel to the Antarctic. **true / false**
- 3 When they arrived in Antarctica, they built a hut. **true / false**
- 4 They lived on the ship for many months. **true / false**
- 5 Captain Scott was the first man to reach the South Pole. **true / false**

3  Watch again. Choose the correct words.

- 1 Scott's ship, the *RSS Discovery*, was made of **metal / wood**.
- 2 The ship sailed south and **east / west** to get to the Antarctic.
- 3 They built their hut on **the shore / a hillside**.
- 4 The crew played **games / music** on the ship when they were bored.
- 5 In 1910, Scott died **going to / returning from** the South Pole.

4  Watch again. Number the events (A–H) in the order that they happened.

- A ___ The *Discovery* set off from the UK.
- B ___ Two ships arrived to help free the *Discovery*.
- C ___ The *Discovery* arrived on the Antarctic coast.
- D ___ Scott was working in the navy.
- E ___ Scott and two others decided to try and walk to the South Pole.
- F ___ Scott joined the expedition to the Antarctic.
- G ___ The *Discovery* stopped in New Zealand.
- H ___ The ice froze around the ship.

Round up**5 SPEAKING** Work in groups. Answer the questions.

Would you like to be an explorer? Why? / Why not? If so, which part of the world would you most like to visit? Why?

Vocabulary

6 RECYCLE Match the two halves of the sentences.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1 The rescue ship managed | a to carry out their research while on board. |
| 2 The engines stopped | b leave the ship and look for food. |
| 3 The crew offered | c working when they caught fire. |
| 4 The crew ended up | d to work longer to save the ship. |
| 5 The scientists continued | e to find all the passengers and crew. |
| 6 The captain agreed to | f staying a lot longer than they thought. |

7 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words below.

expeditions on board on foot sailed trek voyage

Charles Darwin and the HMS *Beagle*

In 1831, Charles Darwin set off on a round-the-world ¹ _____ on the ship the HMS *Beagle*. The ship ² _____ from Portsmouth in England across the Atlantic Ocean to South America. Life ³ _____ the ship was sometimes difficult, but Darwin spent a lot of time reading and researching. When they arrived in South America, Darwin set off ⁴ _____ on a number of small ⁵ _____ to find new plants and animals. Sometimes he and his team would ⁶ _____ for days through rainforests to look for new and interesting species. After five years away, Darwin and the crew sailed home. He had collected thousands of new species and learned a lot about the world, which would help him develop his theory of evolution.

Extension

8 Work in groups. Find out about the life of a modern-day explorer or adventurer and make a poster about them. Draw a map of a journey they took, and find some photos of places that they visited.

Include the following:

- who they are, where they're from and how they got interested in exploring
- where they went and how they travelled
- what they found or how their lives were changed by the journey

9 Present your poster to the class. Use the key phrases for ordering your presentation.

Ordering your presentation

I'd like to start by ...

First of all, ...

Secondly, ...

Let's look now at ...

Now we'll move on to ...

Finally, ...

To finish up, ...

DVD clip summary

The DVD clip is about the expedition to the Antarctic led by Captain Scott in 1902.

Background

Robert Falcon Scott was born in 1868 in the naval town of Devonport, on the south-west coast of England. He joined the navy as a cadet when he was just thirteen years old, and served on various Royal Navy ships for the next twenty years. In 1901, at the age of 33, he was given the job by the Royal Geographical Society of captaining the RRS *Discovery* on a three-year expedition to the Antarctic. The expedition went further south than anyone had been previously, and when Scott returned to Britain he became a national hero. After this, Scott became more interested in the Antarctic, and in 1910 he led a new expedition to reach the South Pole. When they arrived in Antarctica, the teams set out with sledges, ponies and dogs, but due to the terrible weather conditions, the ponies couldn't cope and eventually the dog teams turned back. Scott and four of his men eventually reached the pole on foot, but were beaten there by a Norwegian party. Sadly, all five of the men died on the 1,500 km return journey.

Before you watch

Exercise 1

- Read the questions with the class and elicit answers from individual students. Encourage the students to guess the answers they do not already know and use their suggestions to start a class discussion.
- **Answers:** Students' own answers

Comprehension check

Exercise 2

- **Pre-watching:** Go through the questions with the students.
-  Play the whole DVD clip. The students choose the correct answers. Check their answers.
- **Answers:** 1 false 2 false 3 true 4 true 5 false

Exercise 3

- **Pre-watching:** Ask the students to read the questions and to try and remember what they saw and heard in the DVD clip.
-  Play the DVD clip to check the answers.
- **Answers:** 1 wood 2 east 3 the shore 4 games 5 returning from

Exercise 4

- **Pre-watching:** Ask the students to try and put the events in the correct order before they watch the DVD clip again.
- **Weaker classes:** Play the DVD clip first and pause after each answer.
-  Play the DVD clip to check the answers.
- **Answers:** 1 D 2 F 3 A 4 G 5 C 6 H 7 E 8 B

Round up

Exercise 5

- Put the students in groups. Give them a few minutes to discuss the questions.
- **Answers:** Students' own answers

Vocabulary

Exercise 6

- The students read both halves of the sentences and try and match them.
- **Weaker classes:** Help the students match the verbs and prepositions before they match the sentences.
- **Answers:** 1 e 2 c 3 d 4 f 5 a 6 b

Exercise 7

- Ask the students to read through the text first, then complete the sentences. With a **weaker class**, you could elicit the meanings of the words first.
- **Answers:** 1 voyage 2 sailed 3 on board 4 on foot 5 expeditions 6 trek

Extension

Exercises 8

- **Materials needed:** Large pieces of paper, pens, scissors, glue, computers with internet access, printer
- **Preparation:** Put the students in groups of three. Tell them that they are going to make a poster about a modern-day explorer and draw a map of a journey they took.
- **Language:** Elicit how to start and end a presentation. Then focus on the key phrases.
- **Activity:** Give the students 5–8 minutes to use the internet to find out about an explorer. Then give them another 5 minutes to prepare their presentation and draw their poster, making sure they include all the information in the task. Then ask them to present their poster to the class.
- **Extension:** After all the groups have presented, ask the students to discuss which explorer they think is the bravest or most interesting. For homework, you could ask them to imagine they are that explorer and to write an account of their journey.

Captain Scott and Antarctica

By the end of the Victorian era, British explorers had travelled across every continent in the world except one: Antarctica.

The first major expedition to the Antarctic was on the RRS *Discovery* in 1901 and it was led by an English explorer called Robert Falcon Scott. Scott was an ambitious young naval officer. In 1899, he heard about an expedition to the Antarctic and quickly offered to go. He stopped working as a naval officer and became captain of the *Discovery*.

The RRS *Discovery* was built in the Scottish city of Dundee, a city famous for its shipbuilding heritage. After a lifetime of service, the ship is now a popular tourist attraction in its hometown. It was powered by both steam and sails and was designed to sail through the icy waters of the Antarctic.

Scott's team included naval officers – including another famous explorer, Ernest Shackleton – and scientists, who wanted to learn more about the area's plants and wildlife.

On 6 August 1901, the *Discovery* left the UK. After a five month voyage via Cape Town and Lyttelton Harbour in New Zealand, the ship arrived on the coast of Antarctica on 8 February 1902. The crew immediately set up camp, building a large hut which is still there today. This is where they stored their supplies while they lived on the ship.

The crew continued to live on board as the Antarctic ice froze around the ship. Scott expected this to happen, but it meant that nobody could leave and they ended up staying a lot longer than predicted. If the ship hadn't been designed for Antarctic exploration, it probably would have broken, but fortunately it didn't. However, the crew had to wait for the ice to melt. They stayed on board for months, carrying out research and, when they were bored, playing games.

Eventually, Scott suggested they leave the ship and venture south. He wanted to try to reach the South Pole on foot. Two others, Edward Wilson and Ernest Shackleton, agreed to join him. They trekked through storms and blizzards, but they didn't reach their destination. This may have been a good thing. If they had reached the South Pole, they might not have had enough supplies to get back.

But they survived. And when they returned to camp, two relief ships had arrived, and eventually the crew managed to free the *Discovery* using dynamite. On 10 September, the ship arrived back in London and Captain Scott became a national hero.

But his desire to reach the South Pole grew over the years, and in 1910 he left again for the Antarctic. Sadly, his mission ended in failure. He was beaten to the Pole by the Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen, and Scott and his men tragically died on the return journey.

However, if he hadn't returned to the South Pole, he wouldn't have become Scott of the Antarctic, one of the most famous British heroes of the 20th century.