

## Lost and found: the extraordinary story of Shackleton's Endurance epic

### Level 1: Elementary/Pre-Intermediate – Teacher's notes

**Article summary:** The article describes the journey of the Endurance to Antarctica and the eventual survival of its crew after the ship sank.

**Time:** 60 minutes

**Skills:** Reading, Speaking, Writing

**Language focus:** Vocabulary

**Materials needed:** One copy of the worksheet per student

#### 1. Warmer

- a. The purpose of this activity is to highlight important historic achievements linked to the concept of exploration. As a first stage, or as an alternative to matching the events to the years, you could ask students to put the events in historical order beginning with the earliest. As a follow-up, you could ask students to suggest other important historical achievements relating to discovery and exploration.

**Key:**

- |      |      |
|------|------|
| 1. e | 4. c |
| 2. d | 5. b |
| 3. a | 6. f |

#### 2. Key words

- a. Ask students to do the exercise individually and then compare their answers in pairs or small groups. Elicit examples of where people might get *stuck*, e.g., in a lift, in a traffic jam, climbing through a small window, etc. You can also be *stuck* in a mental sense, for example, when trying to solve a mathematical problem, as in "I've done most of them but I'm really stuck on number 5". Apart from being a long way away, a *remote* place is also difficult to get to.

**Key:**

- |              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1. stowaway  | 6. remote      |
| 2. stuck     | 7. uninhabited |
| 3. abandon   | 8. insane      |
| 4. lifeboat  | 9. destination |
| 5. navigator | 10. glacier    |

#### 3. Comprehension check

- a. Ask students to work individually to answer the questions and then compare their answers in pairs or small groups. The answers given are suggested answers. Students may answer correctly in different ways, e.g., in item 4 they may say '12 kilometres'.

**Key:**

- 28 (27 crew members plus the stowaway)
- Ernest Shackleton
- The ship got stuck in the ice.
- seven miles
- the following April
- on 15 April
- six (Shackleton, Worsley, and four others)
- 800 miles
- three (Shackleton and two others)
- South Georgia

#### 4. Key language

- a. Students can check their answers by finding these phrases in the text.

**Key:**

- |      |      |
|------|------|
| 1. e | 5. d |
| 2. g | 6. b |
| 3. h | 7. c |
| 4. a | 8. f |

#### 5. Discussion

- a. Allow students time to note down their ideas. Make sure they say why they agree or disagree with the statement.

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#### 6. In your own words

- a. Ask students to open an internet web browser and type in *Antarctica*. The answers to all the questions should be relatively straightforward to find. Alternatively, they could type in the questions, e.g., "What kind of wildlife can you find in Antarctica?"