The Coldest Place on Earth

by Tim Vicary
1. When did the race begin?
2. What city was it?
3. How many people watched the Terra Nova go down the river Thames?
4. Robert Falcon Scott was the ___________ of the ship.
5. How old was he?
6. Titus Oates ____________ at Scott.
7. “You are important, Titus, and you’re going to be ____________, too.”
8. What was Scott going to carry under his clothes?
9. Where were they going?
10. What was the date?
11. What was the country?
12. The man who opened the door of the wooden house was not tall. True False
13. Was he in a city or in the countryside?
14. What was waiting for him when he walked down to the sea?
15. The Fram was the most beautiful ______ on earth, and his friends were the best ______ on earth.
16. Olav Bjaaland said, “_________ _________, here we come, Captain.”
17. Amundsen wanted to go there too, but first he was going ____________.
18. Did his friends know this?

The Coldest Place on Earth Chapter Two The Race

1. The Fram went to an _________ in the south of Norway.
2. There were a lot of cats there. True False
3. How many men came out of the house?
4. How many dogs did they have for Amundsen?
5. Was it easy to get the dogs onto the ship?
6. How long did it take?
7. The men were not happy because:
    1. the weather was ______,
    2. the dogs were ______,
    3. and some of the men were ________.
8. Did the men know where they were going?
9. When did Amundsen call everyone to the back of the ship?
10. Behind him was a ______ of Antarctica.
11. How many years ago did they start working for the journey?
12. At that time they wanted to be the first people to reach the ________ _________. However, people from _______________ got there the year before.
13. Amundsen stopped for a minute and looked at the men. Who spoke?
14. Amundsen didn’t want an _____________ flag at the North Pole and a ___________ flag at the South Pole.
15. Slowly Bjaaland began to ____________.
16. He was very excited by the idea. True False
17. They had two advantages:
   1. a lot of _______
   2. some of the most wonderful ________ on earth
18. How long was everyone quiet for?
19. What did Bjaaland do?
   20. He said, “It’s a ski ________, isn’t it, and the English _____ ski! It’s a ________ idea, of course! Let’s ____!”

The Coldest Place on Earth Chapter Three The Ponies
1. Which country did the Terra Nova arrive in on October 27?
2. Who talked to Captain Scott?
3. He asked Scott if he was going to ________.
4. Did Scott know what the man was talking about?
5. What did the man give to Scott?
6. The newspaper said, “FRAM RACES SCOTT TO ________ ________”.
7. What colour was Scott’s face?
8. Who said, This is stupid?
9. Did Scott take the newspaper back to the ship?
10. Scott said to his men, “We’re in ______ of Amundsen, and we have more _______ , and more _________. He has only ______ men, and a lot of ________.”
11. When were the ponies arriving?
12. Why wasn’t Oates happy when he saw the ponies?
13. What did Scott think about them?
14. Was there enough food for them?
15. Note four things that Oates wrote in his letter to his mother.
   1. 
   2. 
   3. 
   4.

The Coldest Place on Earth Chapter Four Food Depots
1. When did the two ships arrive in Antarctica?
2. It was the end of winter. True False
3. What pulled the Norwegians’ sledges?
4. The men ran beside them on ________.
5. What did they put on the ice?
6. Framheim was the name of the ________.
7. Where did the dogs live?
8. What did they want to take south?
9. “On February 10, ______ men, ______ sledge, ______ dogs and half a tonne of food left Framheim and went south.”

10. The temperature was between ____ degrees Centigrade and _____ degrees Centigrade.

11. How many kilometres did they go every day?

12. They made the first depot at _____ degrees South.

13. Did Amundsen make the depot carefully?

14. There were flags five kilometres to the ________ and to the __________ of the depot.

15. They made their second depot at _____ degrees South.

16. “This time it was __________. The temperature was sometimes ____________ degrees Centigrade.”

17. How many flags did they put out at the second depot?

18. When did they come back to Framheim?

*   *   *

19. When did Oates and Scott leave Cape Evans to make their first depot?

20. There were ______ men, ______ ponies and ______ dogs.

21. The ponies were faster than the dogs. ___________ True ________ False

22. Did the ponies or the dogs start first in the mornings?

23. After ________ days, Oates talked to Scott about the __________.

24. Oates wanted to ________ three of them.

25. Did Scott agree with Oates?

26. Scott said, “I don’t ______ my friends!”

27. “_______ days later, _______ of the ponies were dead.”

28. Scott’s men were faster than Amundsen’s. ___________ True ________ False

29. How many flags did they put on the depot?

30. How many ponies went through the ice?

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The Coldest Place on Earth Chapter Five A Long Cold Winter

1. How many months was it dark?

2. It was often _____ degrees Centigrade outside Framheim.

3. The dogs and the men stayed warm under the snow. __________ True ________ False

4. Soon the sledges were _________ and the skis were _________ and __________ than before.

5. Who did Amundsen think about?

6. Amundsen was worried that Scott’s men could go faster because they had:
   1. more _________
   2. motor _________

7. Did Bjaaland agree?

8. Johansen laughed but he was ______________.

9. He thought the Englishmen couldn’t win because:
   1. they didn’t understand ________.
   2. they were too ______________.

10. Amundsen said they were going to start late. __________ True ________ False

11. What day were they going to start?

12. “That’s too early! We can’t start then – it’s ______________ and ______________.”

*   *   *
13. Did the men at Scott’s camp talk about Amundsen?
14. Did they work hard?
15. What did they do?
   1. had good ____________
   2. played ____________
   3. wrote a ______________
   4. read ____________
16. Who looked after the ponies?
17. What did Scott put up over the window?
18. What day did they plan to start?

The Coldest Place on Earth
Chapter Six
A Bad Start

1. When were the Norwegians’ sledges ready?
2. How long did the sun come up for?
3. What was the temperature?
4. How long did they wait?
5. What was the temperature when they left?
6. How many dogs did they have?
7. How far did they go on Saturday?
8. How about Sunday?
9. What was the temperature on Monday?
10. How far did they go that day?
11. Were they happy?
12. Amundsen was angry with Johansen, but he was also angry with ____________.
13. How far was it to the depot?
14. How many dogs died on the way?
15. They travelled slowly on the way back. True False
16. How long did it take to travel 75 kilometres?
17. What time did they reach Framheim?
18. Bjaaland and two more men arrived _____ hours later.
19. What time did Johansen arrive at Framheim?
20. Who was angry next morning?
21. He told Amundsen that September was too late. True False
22. At first, what did Amundsen say?
23. What did he give to Johansen that evening?
24. Amundsen told Johansen that he could not go to the ____________ ____________.
25. The Norwegians thought about _________ and his _____________ sledges.

The Coldest Place on Earth
Chapter Seven
Motor Sledges and Mountains

1. How many motor sledges did Scott have?
2. Motor sledges had never been used in the Antarctic. True False
3. How many men went south with the motor sledges?
4. Did Scott go with them?
5. Was Oates happy?
6. Did he like Scott?
7. Did Scott learn to ski?
8. Did he learn how to drive the dogs?
9. On November 1st, _________ men, _________ sledges and ________ ponies left Cape Evans.
10. How many kilometres did they travel every day?
11. How many days later did they find the motor sledges?
   * * *
12. On October 20, __________ Norwegians, _______ sledges and _______ dogs started again.
13. How deep was the hole?
14. They were happy because:
   a. they had a lot of __________.
   b. they had good __________.
   c. they were __________.
   d. they could travel ________.
15. “But where is Scott? In __________ of us, or __________?”
   * * *
16. Who was with the motor sledges?
17. What was wrong with them?
18. Scott said, “We can get to the Pole ______ ________.”
19. Fill in the table.

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<th>number</th>
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20. What happened on November 21st?
   * * *
21. What did the Norwegians see on November 11?
22. Who stayed with the dogs?
23. They could bring the dogs and sledges the next day. True False
24. “In the next _____ days, the dogs pulled the sledges __________ kilometres, and went up ________ metres.”
25. Everyone was tired and unhappy. True False
26. Do you think Olav would like to pull sledges up mountains?

The Coldest Place on Earth

Chapter Eight

Across the Plateau

1. How many dogs did the Norwegians kill on November 21st?
2. They needed _______ sledges and _________ dogs to go to the Pole.
3. Who ate the dogs?
4. Bjaaland wrote, “They were good __________, and now they are good __________.”
5. They got lost on an ice river. True False
6. How many days did it take to move nine kilometres?
7. After that, how many kilometres did they travel every day?
8. What happened on December 9?
9. How far was it to the Pole?
10. How many more days would it take?

* * *
11. How long did Scott and his men stay near the mountains?
12. What did Oates do on December 9?
13. Where did the dogs go?
14. Who pulled the sledges?
15. How many sledges were there?
16. How many men were there?
17. How many miles did they travel each day?
18. The men on the second sledge couldn’t ski well. True False
19. Was Teddy Evans healthy?
20. How many men did Scott send back with him?
21. There was only food on the sledge for _______ men.
22. Oates was worried about his _______.
23. Did Bowers have skis?
24. On January 4, how far from the Pole were they?

* * *
25. How many Norwegians skied over the beautiful white snow?
26. Were they excited?
27. How much further did they have to go?
28. Hansen wanted Amundsen to be the ________ ________ to reach the South Pole.
29. Slowly they all began to __________.

The Coldest Place on Earth Chapter Nine The End of the Race

1. How long did the Norwegians stay at the Pole?
2. What did they leave on the tent?
3. Inside the tent they left some ________, a ________ for the king of Norway and a ________ for Scott.
4. Did they find their depots easily?
5. How many were there between the Pole and Framheim?
6. What was inside them?
7. Often they skied _______ kilometres a day.
8. What time did they arrive back at Framheim?

* * *
9. What did Scott and his men see?
10. How far ahead of them was it?
11. When did they arrive at the Pole?
12. Scott wrote in his diary:
   1. This is a very bad ______.
   2. We are all ________.
   3. We all have cold ________ and ________.
   4. It is ______ degrees Centigrade.
   5. There is a ________.
   6. This is an ________ place.
13. The morning newspaper of March 13, 1912 said:
       ___________’S FLAG AT SOUTH POLE
14. Kathleen Scott was worried about her __________

   *   *   *
15. Scott’s men were always __________.
16. Were their depots easy to find?
17. Was there enough food in them?
18. What colour were Oates’ feet?
19. On February 16, Edgar Evans ________.
20. What did they eat at the depot past the mountains?
21. They were ill because:
   1. their clothes were not ________.
   2. they didn’t have much ________.
22. March 17 was Oates’ ____________.
23. How old was he?
24. Who did he write a letter to?
25. Did they see him again?

   *   *   *
26. Who waited at Cape Evans?
27. When did Meares and the dogs come back?
28. When did Teddy Evans and his two men come back?
29. Did Scott come back?
30. How long did they wait?
31. How long did it take them to find a tent?
32. How many bodies did they find?
33. Did they find Oates’ body?
34. “But he is there, somewhere, under the snow and the wind, in the ____________, emptiest
       ________  _____ ________.“
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<td>24. smiled</td>
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<td>25. famous</td>
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<td>26. British flag</td>
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<td>27. South Pole</td>
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<td>28. June 6</td>
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<td>38. a minute or two</td>
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<td>40. race, can’t, wonderful, go</td>
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<td>15. 19 ponies, in a small room, we eat below them, table often wet, dirty, Scott makes mistakes, Antarctica dangerous</td>
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Chapter Six  A Bad Start
1. August 23
2. half an hour
3. -46
4. 2 weeks
5. -37
6. 86
7. 28 kms
8. 28 kms
9. -56
10. 28 kms
11. no
12. himself
13. 37 kms
14. 2
15. False
16. 9 hours
17. 4 pm
18. 2
19. midnight
20. Johansen
21. False
22. nothing
23. a letter
24. South Pole
25. Scott, motor

Chapter Seven  Motor Sledges and Mountains
27. 2
28. True
29. 4
30. no
31. no
32. no
33. no
34. no
35. 8, 8, 8
36. 3 or 4
37. 5
38. 5, 4, 48
39. 50 metres
40. food, equipment, warm, fast
41. front, behind
42. no one
43. broken
44. on foot
45. £1,000, ponies, 32
46. pony died
47. mountains
48. Hanssen
49. True
50. 4, 81, 3,000
51. False
52. ?no

Chapter Eight  Across the Plateau
30. 30
31. 3, 18
32. other dogs and men
33. friends, food
34. True
35. 4
36. 25 or 30
37. sun came out
38. 175 kms
39. 5
40. 4 days
41. killed the ponies
42. back to Cape Evans
43. the men
44. 2
45. 8
46. 24
47. True
48. no
49. 2
50. 4
51. feet
52. no
53. 270 kms
54. 5
55. yes
56. 6 kms
57. first man
58. laugh

Chapter Nine  The End of the Race
35. 2 days
36. Norwegian flag
37. food, letter, letter
38. yes
39. 10
40. food
41. 50
42. 4 am
43. small black flag
44. 2 kms
45. 17 January 1912
46. day, tired, feet, hands, -30, snowstorm, awful
47. NORWAY
48. husband
49. hungry
50. no
51. no
52. black
53. died
54. pony
55. warm, food
56. birthday
57. 32
58. his mother
59. no
60. the Englishmen
61. September 11
62. January 3
63. no
64. all winter
65. 2 weeks
66. 3
67. no
68. coldest place on earth
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<tr>
<td>Six</td>
<td>A Bad Start</td>
<td>5.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seven</td>
<td>Motor Sledges and Mountains</td>
<td>7.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eight</td>
<td>Across the Plateau</td>
<td>7.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nine</td>
<td>The End of the Race</td>
<td>8.16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>