

Name:

Date:

Read the following newspaper article about the Anglo-Irish Antarctic explorer Ernest Shackleton.

THE DAILY NEWS

SHACKLETON SETS SAIL

Shackleton and his crew have finally launched *The Endurance* on route to Antarctica. They are planning to cross Antarctica via the South Pole.

The wooden ship is loaded with warm clothes, plenty of food with a long shelf life, and even a huge team of strong dogs to pull the sleds.

Before leaving, Shackleton said, "I have wanted to be an explorer since I was a boy and this is my dream come true."

Having moved from Ireland to London to be educated, Shackleton rejected his father's wishes to become a doctor. Instead he joined the merchant navy when he was 16 and qualified as a master mariner in 1898. He travelled widely but was keen to explore the poles.

"I know it's going to be hard," said a crew member, "but I'm so excited to be part of this adventure."



*Ernest Shackleton,
Captain of The Endurance*

Shackleton will have to navigate his ship through a thick ice pack before he is able to leave the ship and begin his exploration on foot.

It is a dangerous journey, but if Shackleton achieves his goal, he will go down in history.

Name: Date:.....

Answer the following comprehension questions.

Set 1

1. Circle the features which appear in this newspaper article:

- Headline
- Picture
- Caption
- Introduction
- Quotes

2. What is the name of the ship Shackleton and his crew plan to sail in?

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3. What was the ship made from?

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4. Where was the ship heading for?

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5. What did Shackleton hope to achieve?

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6. Why had they taken dogs with them?

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7. Would you have liked to have been on the expedition? Why?

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Name: Date:.....

Answer the following comprehension questions.

Set 2

1. Circle the features which appear in this newspaper article:

Headline

Picture

Caption

Introduction

Quotes

2. Does the headline use alliteration?

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3. What was Shackleton trying to achieve?

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4. What does the article say are the dangers of the voyage?

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5. Which adjectives are used to describe the ship, food and dogs?

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6. What did Shackleton say about the expedition? Copy out his words.

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7. Would you have liked to have been on the expedition? Why?

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