



Geography: Purple Class

Would Ernest Shackleton plan differently if he had to explore The Sahara Desert?

Key Vocabulary

depot	A place where large amounts of raw materials or other supplies are needed.
rations	Having limited amount of food or supplies for each person.
compass	An instrument that you use for finding directions. An instrument containing a magnetized pointer which shows the direction of magnetic north and bearings from it.
frost bite	When parts of your body become damaged due to being very cold. Injury to body tissues caused by exposure to extreme cold, typically affecting the nose, fingers, or toes and often resulting in gangrene.
capsize	Be overturned in the water.
dehydration	The loss or removal of water from something. A harmful reduction in the amount of water in the body.
Chilean	A native or inhabitant of Chile.
primary source	Immediate, first-hand accounts of a topic, from people who had a direct connection with it. Archives and manuscript material, photographs, audio recordings, video recordings, films, journals, letters and diaries.
secondary source	Secondary sources describe, summarize, or discuss information or details originally presented in another source; meaning the author, in most cases, did not participate in the event. Examples of a secondary source are: Publications such as textbooks, magazine articles, book reviews, commentaries, encyclopedias, almanacs.
blizzard	A severe snowstorm with high winds.
gale	A very strong wind.
glacier	A slowly moving mass or river of ice formed by the accumulation and compaction of snow on mountains or near the poles.



Sir Ernest Shackleton

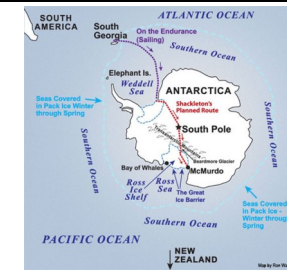


The Endurance stuck in pack ice



Shackleton travelled to Antarctica.

Shackleton's intended route:

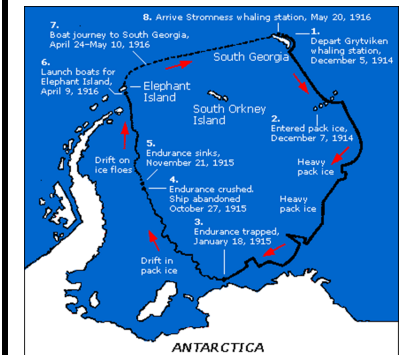


Key Facts:

Ernest Shackleton and the Endurance

- 1) Sir Ernest Henry Shackleton was born on **1874** and died in **1922**.
- 2) **In August 1914** he set out to cross the South Polar Continent Antarctica.
- 6) Shackleton's crew was made of 26 men and 69 dogs. The ship was called **Endurance**.
- 7) Endurance became stuck on in the pack ice in the Weddell Sea and the men had to **evacuate**.
- 8) Endurance sank on **21st November 1915**.
- 9) They first set up a **Patience camp** but later found **Elephant Island** an ice covered Mountain Island off the coast of Antarctica.
- 10) After 16 months Shackleton took a single boat and 2 crew- members to **South Georgia** to seek help.
- 11) When they arrived in South Georgia, the trek was a struggle. They trekked across thick snow, gullies, deep crevasses and glaciers.
- 12) They arrived at a **Whaling Station** and the Chilean government sent a ship to rescue the remaining men on Elephant Island.
- 13) **No member of the crew died** during the expedition.
- 14) Shackleton was seen as a **hero** for his bravery and perseverance.

Shackleton's actual route:





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Antarctica: Key Knowledge

Antarctica is the southernmost continent on Earth.

The South Pole is found in Antarctica.

Antarctica is surrounded by the Southern Ocean.

Antarctica is bigger than Europe and almost double the size of Australia.

Most of Antarctica is covered in ice over 1.6 kilometres thick (1 mile).

Because it experiences such little rain, Antarctica is considered a desert.

The coldest recorded temperature on Earth occurred in 1983 at Vostok Station, Antarctica, measuring a rather chilly -89.2°C (-128.6°F).

While humans don't permanently reside in Antarctica, several thousand people live and work at various research facilities found on the continent.

While Antarctica features harsh living conditions, a number of plants and animals have adapted to survive and call the icy continent home.

Well known animals that live in Antarctica include penguins and seals.

The name 'Antarctica' comes from a Greek word meaning 'opposite to the north'.

Around 90% of the ice on Earth is found in Antarctica.

Sea levels would rise around 60m (200ft) if all the ice in Antarctica were to melt.



The Sahara Desert: Key Knowledge

The Sahara Desert is huge. It covers an area of 3,629,360 square miles and is still growing. From east to west it is 4,800 miles long and from north to south it is 1,118 miles wide. If the Sahara were a country it would be the fifth largest country in the world. Larger than Brazil and only slightly smaller than the United States.

The Sahara Desert is one of the most consistently hottest places on Earth. The average temperature during the summer months is between 100.4°F (38°C) and 114.8°F (46°C). In some areas the temperature can exceed 120°F for several days in a row.

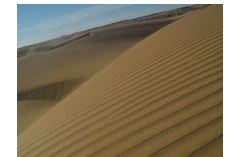
The word "Sahara" is the Arabic word for desert.

The Sahara used to be a lush region with many plants and animals. It began to dry up around 4000 years ago due to a gradual change in the tilt of the Earth's orbit.

The highest point in the Sahara Desert is the volcano Emi Koussi in Chad. Its peak is 11,302 feet above sea level.

Despite its large size, only around 2.5 million people live in the Sahara Desert.

The most common language spoken in the Sahara is Arabic.



Landforms of the Sahara Desert:

The Sahara Desert is made up of several different types of landforms including:

Dunes - Dunes are hills made of sand. Some dunes in the Sahara can reach over 500 feet tall.

Ergs - Ergs are large areas of sand. They are sometimes called sand seas.

Regs - Regs are flat plains that are covered with sand and hard gravel.

Hamadas - Hamadas are hard and barren rocky plateaus.

Salt Flats - A flat area of land covered with sand, gravel, and salt.

