

Tom Crean Worksheet

Read the story and fill in the gaps.

Tom Crean was born in Co. Kerry in 1877. His parents were _____. Tom dreamed of one day becoming a _____. When he was 15, he stole a suit and some money, and went to join the _____.

Tom's first expedition was with Captain Robert _____ on the ship _____. Their aim was to be the first explorers to reach the South Pole. Their ship got into difficulty along the way, getting stuck in ice for almost two years. Despite this, they set a record as the explorers that got the closest to the _____. They were just 575 miles from their goal.

They tried again a few years later in 1911. The men boarded the ship _____, along with 16 others. While on their way, Captain Scott decided that only _____ of the men should finish the journey. Tom was not chosen and was devastated. While Scott's team did manage to reach the South Pole, _____ explorer Roald Amundsen who had gotten there first, beating them. On their return journey, Scott and his four companions died of _____ due to a severe drop in temperatures.

Tom joined Ernest Shackleton on an expedition to Antarctica in 1914. This mission was named _____, after the boat on which they would travel. Their aim was to walk across _____, from coast to coast. While on their way, their boat became stuck in ice for almost _____ months. This brought them miles off course with no means of communication. After many months, the boat was crushed by ice. The team took refuge on Elephant Island. Tom led a small team back to South Georgia, where the mission had begun. He was able to get help and Shackleton's team were saved.

Tom returned to Ireland and opened a pub called 'South Pole Inn' in _____, Co. Kerry. He died in 1938.



farmers	Antarctica	Scott
Royal Navy	Annascaul	Discovery
South Pole	Endurance	Norwegian
Sailor	Terra Nova	ten
frostbite	five	

Answers

Tom Crean was born in Co. Kerry in 1877. His parents were **farmers**. Tom dreamed of one day becoming a **sailor**. When he was 15, he stole a suit and some money, and went to join the **Royal Navy**.

Tom's first expedition was with Captain Robert **Scott** on the ship '**Discovery**'. Their aim was to be the first explorers to reach the South Pole. Their ship got into difficulty along the way, getting stuck in ice for almost two years. Despite this, they set a record as the explorers that got the closest to the **South Pole**. They were just 575 miles from their goal.

They tried again a few years later in 1911. The men boarded the ship **Terra Nova**, along with 16 others. While on their way, Captain Scott decided that only **five** of the men should finish the journey. Tom was not chosen and was devastated. While Scott's team did manage to reach the South Pole, **Norwegian** explorer Roald Amundsen who had gotten there first, beating them. On their return journey, Scott and his four companions died of **frostbite** due to a severe drop in temperatures.

Tom joined Ernest Shackleton on an expedition to Antarctica in 1914. This mission was named '**Endurance**', after the boat on which they would travel. Their aim was to walk across **Antarctica**, from coast to coast. While on their way, their boat became stuck in ice for almost **ten** months. This brought them miles off course with no means of communication. After many months, the boat was crushed by ice. The team took refuge on Elephant Island. Tom led a small team back to South Georgia, where the mission had begun. He was able to get help and Shackleton's team were saved.

Tom returned to Ireland and opened a pub called 'South Pole Inn' in Annascaul, Co. Kerry. He died in 1938.