

# Mystery in the Arctic

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 *Mystery in the Arctic* is a mixture of *recounts*, *information reports* and *explanations*. Unlike recounts and information reports, explanations are often written in the *passive voice*. For example, 'John ate the apple' is written in the *active voice* (John, the doer, is the focus of attention) and 'The apple was eaten by John' is written in the *passive voice* (the apple, the receiver, is the focus). Rewrite the following sentences in the passive voice. The first one has been done for you.

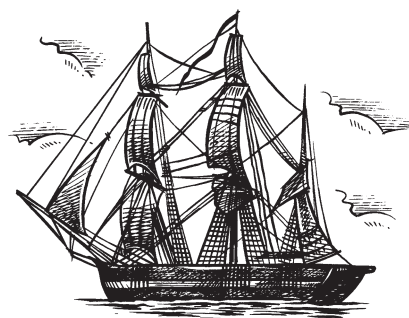
- a Franklin returned the invitation. The invitation was returned by Franklin.
- b Bad weather forced the ships apart. \_\_\_\_\_
- c Ice preserved the bodies. \_\_\_\_\_
- d Sir John Franklin ate the shoe leather. \_\_\_\_\_
- e The British Government offered a reward. \_\_\_\_\_

- 2 Two words with the same meaning are called *synonyms*. The chart below contains a list of synonyms for words that appear in the text. Use the page numbers to locate the original word. You may use a dictionary to help you.

Synonym	Page	Word located in the text
disaster	5	
journey	5	
route	6	
upland	7	
outfitted	8	
anxious	10	
papers	11	

- 3 Use a thesaurus to find synonyms for the following words:

- a Mystery \_\_\_\_\_
- b Revealed \_\_\_\_\_
- c Expedition \_\_\_\_\_
- d Surrounded \_\_\_\_\_



- 4 It is 1984 and you are a journalist covering the story on the discovery of John Torrington. On the back of this page write a headline and opening paragraph that outlines the event. (Remember to use *past tense*.)

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1 A *closed* question requires only a limited response — often a single word. An *open* question requires a longer response or explanation. Read the following questions and circle whether they are open or closed.

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| a The ships and the men had simply vanished. Why?                                  | OPEN / CLOSED |
| b The doctor decided that the man had died from lung disease.<br>But was he right? | OPEN / CLOSED |
| c Could the members of the expedition have been<br>poisoned by lead?               | OPEN / CLOSED |
| d Why did Sir John Franklin die when there was still<br>plenty of food?            | OPEN / CLOSED |
| e So how were they poisoned by the lead?   | OPEN / CLOSED |

2 Write the questions that go with the following answers including a question mark.

- a Q. \_\_\_\_\_  
A. The processes destroy the bacteria that cause food to spoil.
- b Q. \_\_\_\_\_  
A. Scurvy is a disease caused by not having enough vitamin C in the body.
- c Q. \_\_\_\_\_  
A. People feel weak, lose weight and become bad-tempered.
- d Q. \_\_\_\_\_  
A. Roald Amundsen, a Norwegian, in 1906.
- e Q. \_\_\_\_\_  
A. They ate caribou, walrus, polar bear, musk oxen, whales, fish and birds.

3 On the back of this page, draw a consequence wheel that shows all the causes and effects that influenced the 1840 expedition. (Each idea branches out until it reaches a final consequence.)

Example:

