

# READING, WRITING & Spelling

## Week 3: Great Journeys

## Year 5 HOME LEARNING

### Reading



1. See how a TV presenter and an Olympian do spending 3 months trying to row the Atlantic Ocean! The **Visual Literacy** sheet has the video link and some questions. Choose Level 1, 2 or 3 or do them all!



2. Open up your **Read All About It** page to read about Manx swallows flying from South Africa.

### Writing Practice

#### 'Contrasting' connectives

'Contrasting' connectives – like **but** and **however** – are used when you have two ideas in your sentence which do not agree with each other.

#### Examples:

1. Mr Brooks loves sunrises, **but** he dislikes getting up so early in the morning!
2. Salmon swam up the river to spawn, **however** bears were hunting upstream.
3. Cracknell was an experienced rower, **unlike** Fogel who hadn't rowed before!

'Contrasting' connectives include:

**However** **unlike** **but** **although** **whereas**  
**except** **on the other hand** **in contrast** **despite**

1. Use a different 'contrasting' connective to add more detail to each of these sentences:

- (a) Captain Cook was ready for the voyage,
- (b) The Trans-Siberian arrived at the platform on time,
- (c) I had plenty of food supplies,
- (d) The huskies looked strong enough to pull the sled,

2. Think of four more creative sentences that include 'contrasting' connectives!



### Writing Challenges

**Challenge 1** Imagine **you** are in the middle of a Great Journey. Write a diary entry of your experiences, thoughts and feelings.

Are you an explorer in a new land? An adventurer in a race across the desert? A sailor crossing the ocean?

Make sure you describe what you have seen, amazing events, plans for what is next and your hopes and fears. See if you can include some contrasting connectives!

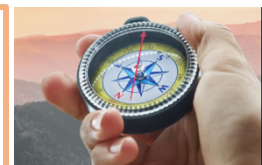


#### Challenge 2

Write a short story of a Great Journey involving these 3 pics:

1. A compass
2. Parachute
3. Joe Wicks

**Be creative!**



### Spellings

This week's spellings theme is Modal Verbs (used to express possibility, ability, permission or obligation)

Can  
Could  
May  
Might  
Must  
Shall  
Should  
Will  
Would  
Ought

**Learn them**, find out what they all mean, and **organise your own test for Friday!**

To help you learn them, maybe you can come up with sentences or stories that use the words!

## Ben Fogel and James Cracknel Row Across the Atlantic

[See the video in the Year 5 area of the 'Weekly Learning Packs' page at hbn.sch.im](https://hbn.sch.im)



See the 'Rowing the Atlantic' video on the HBN website. It is about two friends who attempt one of the world's toughest journeys, rowing 3,000 miles across the Atlantic Ocean! Then try these questions!

### Level One:

1. Where does the race start and finish?
2. One of the friends, James, is an Olympic rower. The other is friend is Ben. What is his normal job?

### Level Two:

3. At 1.33 it says that one of the rowers is 'a complete novice'. What do you think this means?
4. How is Ben feeling before the challenge?

### Level Three:

5. At 2.30 you see the friends are visited by a special animal. What effect do you think this had on the rowers? Why?
6. Do you think James and Ben made it to the end of the 3,000-mile challenge? Why do you think so?



# Read all about.... Swallows, the 5,000-mile journey!

At this time of year thousands of swallows return to the Isle of Man, and start building their mud nests in our barns, sheds and houses. But did you know the unbelievable journey they made to get here? And will they stay?

The Isle of Man's swallows are known as British swallows and spend the winter 5,000 miles away in South Africa, travelling in huge numbers through France, across the Pyrenees and eastern Spain and into Morocco, then across the Sahara Desert.

Swallows usually return to the same breeding area year after year and will even use the same nest site as in previous years. They return to the British Isles every year in April and May.

## How far can they travel in one day?

The birds migrate by day at low altitudes, finding food where possible along the way. They are vulnerable to starvation during the migration periods and many birds die from hunger, exhaustion and in storms. Migrating swallows are wonderful fliers and will cover 200 miles a day, mainly during daylight at speeds around 20 mph, although they can reach up to 35 mph.

They are amazing hunters, swooping to catch flying insects in the air. They stay away from bees and wasps though!

## Then what?

Then, later in the year, thousands of swallows which have spent the summer in the Isle of Man begin to gather in large groups ready for the mass migration back to the southern hemisphere.

September is the month to see the annual spectacle of groups of up to 200 swallows gathering before "decision day" when they leave Manx shores before meeting up with other groups to form huge flocks of thousands of birds who will travel together on their hazardous 5,000 miles journey to the sun.

## Are they endangered in the Isle of Man?

Loss of habitat has resulted in a significant decline in swallow and swift populations in the United Kingdom, but in the Isle of Man it is thought that both species are surviving and breeding successfully and that populations are not dropping noticeably.

What did you think about the amazing story of Manx swallows? Write down a few of your thoughts, or ask someone in your house to read it to and talk about what you both think!

