

B1-B2 English Worksheet

Karl Bushby's 28-Year Walk Around the World: The Journey Home

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Article

In November 1998, former British soldier Karl Bushby set off from Punta Arenas in Chile with a remarkable plan: to return to Hull, England, on foot. He expected the trip to take around twelve years. Now he is close to home but has not finished. Bushby decided to stick to two rules: never use transport to move forward along his route, and never visit home until he arrived on foot. He could leave during breaks but had to come back to the precise place. What began as a personal challenge soon turned into an enormous adventure.

On his way north, Bushby had to get through deserts, mountains and dangerous jungle. In 2006, he crossed the partly frozen Bering Strait between Alaska and Russia. Later, he had to put up with border restrictions, illness and money problems. At one point, he ran out of money and took temporary jobs to get by. Yet he refused to give up. People he met along the way looked after him, offering food, shelter and medical help. In 2024, he swam across the Caspian Sea with a small group. He then reached Britain on 5 October 2026 after swimming the English Channel.

By mid-October, Bushby still had a walk to complete from Dover to Hull. He hopes to carry on until he reaches his mother's home. His journey has come at a cost: he has missed years with family and struggled to keep relationships going. He also wonders how he will settle down after living on the move for so long. Although Bushby has faced frightening situations, he says that the kindness of strangers has changed his view of the world. For him, reaching home may be only part of the story; the people who helped him matter just as much.

True/False

Decide if each statement is True (T) or False (F).

No.	Statement	T / F
1	The expedition started in South America towards the end of the 1990s.	
2	Bushby originally imagined he would reach Hull in under five years.	
3	His rules meant he could never leave his walking route for any reason.	
4	His journey included a difficult crossing between Alaska and Russia.	
5	A shortage of money forced him to earn a living during the expedition.	
6	He arrived at his mother's home as soon as he landed in Britain.	
7	People he encountered sometimes helped him with basic necessities.	
8	Bushby is certain that returning to a settled life will be easy.	

Phrase Match

Match the phrases (1-10) to the correct definitions (A-J).

Phrases (1-10)	Definitions (A-J)
1. set off	A. tolerate something unpleasant
2. stick to	B. return somewhere
3. come back	C. stop trying
4. get through	D. keep to a rule or plan
5. put up with	E. used up a supply
6. ran out of	F. took care of someone
7. get by	G. manage to pass through a difficult place or situation
8. give up	H. begin a settled life
9. looked after	I. manage with little money
10. settle down	J. begin a journey

Synonym Match

Match the words (1-10) to their closest synonyms (A-J).

Words (1-10)	Synonyms (A-J)
1. remarkable	A. limitations
2. precise	B. huge
3. enormous	C. connections
4. dangerous	D. exact
5. restrictions	E. alarming
6. temporary	F. sickness
7. illness	G. extraordinary
8. frightening	H. hazardous
9. kindness	I. short-term
10. relationships	J. goodwill

Use the New Language

Choose 5 words or phrases from the worksheet and write your own sentences.

No.	Your sentence
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

Discussion Questions

Student A	Student B
1. What is the longest distance you have ever walked in one day?	1. Why might someone spend almost 30 years trying to achieve one goal?
2. Have you ever set a goal that took longer than you expected?	2. When does determination become stubbornness? When should someone give up?
3. Would you enjoy travelling around the world on foot? Why or why not?	3. Can an extraordinary adventure be worth years away from family and friends?
4. What would you miss most if you spent several years away from home?	4. How much danger should people accept when following a dream?
5. Have you ever had to change your plans because something went wrong on a journey?	5. How might such a long journey change someone's beliefs and personality?
6. What helps you carry on when a goal becomes difficult?	6. Do borders and visa rules make world exploration too difficult?
7. Which country would you most like to explore on foot?	7. What matters more: finishing a big goal or the experiences along the way?
8. Would you prefer a long adventure alone or with a friend?	8. Why might it be hard to settle down after nearly three decades of travelling?

Answer Key

True/False	1=T, 2=F, 3=F, 4=T, 5=T, 6=F, 7=T, 8=F
Phrase Match	1=J, 2=D, 3=B, 4=G, 5=A, 6=E, 7=I, 8=C, 9=F, 10=H
Synonym Match	1=G, 2=D, 3=B, 4=H, 5=A, 6=I, 7=F, 8=E, 9=J, 10=C

Example Sentences With the Phrases

No.	Example sentence
1	The explorers set off before sunrise to avoid the worst heat.
2	I try to stick to my budget whenever I travel.
3	We had to come back to the same campsite after the storm.
4	It took several hours to get through the mountain pass.
5	She could not put up with the noise outside her flat.
6	We ran out of drinking water on the final day of the hike.
7	He worked at a cafe to get by between trips.
8	They refused to give up when their first attempt failed.
9	A local family looked after the hikers during the storm.
10	After years abroad, she decided to settle down near her family.