

Name _____



South Pole Keywords

Directions: Read the passage carefully. Select **one strong keyword** from each paragraph that serves as a “trigger” to help you recall the main idea of that section. Explain why you chose each keyword and how it helps you remember the content.

The Race to the South Pole

In the early 1900s, explorers from different countries dreamed of being the first to reach the South Pole. The icy continent was mysterious, dangerous, and filled with challenges that tested both courage and survival skills.

Two teams stood out in this race: Roald Amundsen from Norway and Robert Falcon Scott from Britain. Amundsen carefully prepared with sled dogs, warm clothing, and a clear route. Scott, however, used ponies and motor sledges that often failed in the freezing cold.

Amundsen’s team reached the South Pole first in December 1911, planting the Norwegian flag. Scott’s group arrived a month later, exhausted and disappointed. Sadly, Scott and his men did not survive the return journey, but their bravery was remembered by many.

The story of the South Pole race shows how planning, preparation, and determination can make the difference between triumph and tragedy. Both leaders became symbols—Amundsen for victory and Scott for courage in the face of loss.

Activity: Keyword Triggers

1. Write down **one keyword per paragraph** that captures the main idea.
2. Explain in one sentence why each keyword helps you recall that paragraph.
3. Use your four keywords as a quick mnemonic outline to retell the story.