

JASON LEWIS: AROUND THE WORLD BY MUSCLE POWER

1. Before you watch the video, match the following words and expressions with their definitions:

circumnavigate verb [T]

to sail all the way around something

brave verb [T]

to deal with an unpleasant or difficult situation:

flee verb [I or T; never passive]

to escape by running away, especially because of danger or fear:

quest noun [C]

a long search for something that is difficult to find, or an attempt to achieve something difficult:

leg noun [C]:

a particular stage of a journey, competition or activity

implement verb [T]

to put a plan or system into operation:

escort verb [T]

to go with someone or a vehicle especially to make certain that they arrive safely or that they leave a place

mishap noun [C or U]

bad luck, or an unlucky event or accident

Answer Key

2. Now use the words in the previous exercise to fill in the gaps in these sentences. You may need to change the words a bit to fit them in the sentences.

1. The changes to the national health system will be **implemented** next year.
2. She **fled** from the room in tears.
3. Shall we **brave** the snow and go for a walk?
4. Nothing will stop them in their **quest** for truth.
5. The last **leg** of the race was Paris to London.
6. Several little boats **escorted** the sailing ship into the harbour.
7. A series of **mishaps** led to the nuclear power plant blowing up.
8. They **circumnavigated** Cape Horn Island in canoes.

Definitions and examples from Cambridge Advanced Learner's dictionary

3. Now watch the video and do the following exercise:



video from abc podcasts

1. Put these events in chronological order:

2. travelled through Colorado on roller blades
3. cycled across Africa
5. crossed the Bosphorus in a rowing boat
4. crossed the Pacific escorted by dolphins
1. crossed the Atlantic to the US in a small boat

2. It took Jason Lewis so long to go round the world because:

- he used only human power
- he had several problems along the way
- he spent nearly four years in hospital
- he broke his leg twice

3. He set off on this adventure:

- to implement educational programs
- because it had never been done before
- for the physical challenge but also as a means to help educational and charity projects
- to raise money for local charities in Africa

4. His worst moment was:

- when he was run over by a car
- one Christmas he had to have dinner in the middle of the Atlantic two thousand miles from land
- having to eat dried mutton granules
- when a shark nearly attacked him

5. Now that he is back in London:

- he regrets being away from his family for so long
- he wants to start another expedition as soon as possible
- he is really happy to see his family again
- he finds embarrassing that he can't recognize some members of his family

Answer Key

Script

In 1994, Bill Clinton was president, O J Simpson was **fleeing** from the police in his white bronco, and the movie of the year was Forrest Gump, the story of the man who did everything including running , running and running you remember that? In the same year Jason Lewis left home to travel all around the world, all the way around it, 13 years later those are the stats he has gone through 37 countries, covered 46,000 miles.

Jason Lewis is the modern day Greek hero of Odysseus.

- 'It's thirteen years, thirteen years coming to an end, its been a big, long journey'

And what a journey it has been! Armed with his steely determination and muscle power Lewis has travelled over 5 continents and three oceans. **Braving** the elements in a small boat he crossed the Atlantic ocean to the US where his **quest** nearly ended. As he was traveling through Colorado on roller blades, yes, roller blades! Lewis broke both of his legs after being knocked down by a car.

Undeterred, the adventurer continued crossing the Pacific, and an uninvited friend joined him. **Escorted** by dolphins Lewis travelled onwards to Australia, through Indonesia and the Himalayas more unwanted travel companions, Lewis was back in two wheels cycling across Africa. In a rowing boat he crossed the Bosphorus into Istanbul. In the final **leg of his journey**, Lewis now 40 years old, was back to his beloved paddle boat.

- 'It's just been this huge culmination of an effort on a purely human power level by individual people who brought this thing home and make it happen.

- Jason, good morning, congratulations!

- Thank you.

- So, you were 26 when you started this big adventure, 40 years old now, it took you 13 years, what took you so long?

- Well, we thought it was going to originally take three to four years, various **mishaps** happened along the way, getting run over in Colorado, having two broken legs, the continued problem of trying to find the funds to actually finance the thing for the first eleven years of the project.

- I see, well here's the big question everybody has, why? why would you do this?

- Well, is something that hadn't been done before, to **circumnavigate** the world using only human power but also we have used the expedition as an educational tour, to visit classrooms along the way and develop and **implement** educational programs for the classroom, we have also raised quite a bit of money for local charities along the way especially in Asia. so it's been a mixed of the physical challenge and also using it for other means.

- Wonderful. Best moment, worst moment.

- Best moment I think was having Christmas dinner on a ship in the middle of the Atlantic, two thousand miles from land, when we were otherwise eating dried mutton granules a lovely full-on Christmas dinner with a glass of wine and then for an hour on end we were kicked off and we had to keep on paddling towards Miami.

- We are showing a shark right now, was that the worst moment?

- No, because the shark was just trying to eat our propeller, because it shines as it spins in the water. No that was just a bit of tiresome shark that slowed us down. But one of the worse moments I suppose was getting run over by the car in Colorado, and waking up in the hospital and having this very badly broken leg, osteomyelitis, so been told that there was a possibility of losing my left leg and therefore nor being able to continue the expedition.

- Wow we are so glad that you made it through all that You've just arrived back in London and I understand that you haven't seen some of your family members for all of these thirteen years. What has been like to reunite with them?

- It was very bizarre when I came up to the Greenwich meridian line yesterday, there were some members of my family that I didn't even recognize as my nephews and my little niece, so it's embarrassing, because I was shaking hands with people and they would say, Oh I'm actually related to you!

- But Jason Lewis, I'm sure they will forgive that small price to pay for what you have done. What a remarkable story. Thanks so much for being with us.