

1

EXTENSION

Name:

1 The words below appear in the text in Exercise 2. Find the words and guess their meanings. Use a dictionary to check your guesses.

1. goal 2. waterhole

2 Read the text and complete the sentences with the verbs below. Use the Past Simple or Past Continuous.

Crossing the Sahara

The Sahara Desert in Africa is more than 9,400,000 square kilometres. In summer, temperatures reach 45°C and in winter, they can fall to 0°C. On windy days, the air fills with sand, so it's hard to see. Does that sound like a good place to go running?

In 2007, marathon runners Charlie Engle, Ray Zahab and Kevin Lin ran 6,920 kilometres across the Sahara in 111 days. Every day they woke up at 4.00 am, ran until lunch, stopped to eat and then ran again until 9.30 pm. The men overcame many obstacles along the way. The high desert temperatures often made them tired. In some places, there were no roads so they ran in deep, dry sand.

So why did they decide to set out on such a difficult journey? All three men loved extreme sports. Kevin Lin, a famous athlete in his home country, Taiwan, ran 241 kilometres across the Atacama Desert in Chile in 2004. For him, running across the Sahara was a dream come true. Americans Charlie Engle and Ray Zahab used to have problems as young men. Running gave them a goal and helped them improve their lives.

But there was another reason why the men came to the Sahara. They wanted to help Africa. Hollywood director James Moll made a film about their journey and the money from it went to an organisation called H2O Africa. H2O Africa brings clean drinking water to people all over the continent. For many Africans, clean water is hard to find. Ray Zahab learned this in the African country of Mali when he ran past a group of women and some camels. They were all drinking from the same waterhole. Experiences like that gave the men a reason to run. Their journey was making a difference to people's lives.

help ♦ not have ♦ get ♦ make ♦ use ♦ be

1. The men tired easily because of the hot weather.
2. Kevin Lin excited about running across the Sahara.
3. While the men their way across the Sahara, they met many African people.
4. The film about the journey African people.
5. When Ray saw the women and the camels, they the same waterhole.
6. The women in Mali clean drinking water.

3 Answer the questions.

1. List three difficulties in running across the Sahara.

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2. How did running help Charlie Engle and Ray Zahab?

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3. How did the run help African people?

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4 Imagine you went on a difficult journey. Write a page from your diary about your experiences. Include information about:

- where you went
- what you did
- what obstacles you overcame
- how you felt