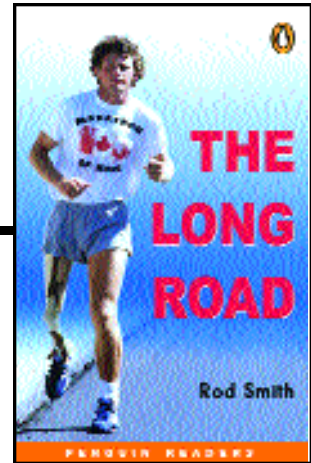


# Penguin Readers Factsheets

## Teacher's Notes

# The Long Road

by Rod Smith



Easystarts The Long Road

## About Easystarts

Easystarts are Readers written to the lowest level in the Penguin Readers series. They are specially written originals using 200 headwords and the simplest grammatical structures.

There are more than twenty titles to choose from across a range of styles and subject matter. All titles are in full color, with carefully selected photos and/or artwork to guide early learners of English. There is one page of activities at the back of each Reader.

Penguin Readers Easystarts provide pleasurable reading for all tastes at an appropriate level of difficulty.

## Summary

*The Long Road* is a true story and is illustrated with photos. It is the story of an eighteen-year-old student, Terry Fox, who lives in Canada. He is a good runner until one day his leg hurts.

He has cancer in his leg and doctors have to remove the leg to save his life. When he leaves hospital he remembers the children he got to know there. He wants to raise money to help them.

He decides to raise money by doing a long run. He has a new, artificial leg. He chooses to run across the whole of Canada. You can see the road he took on the map on pages 2–3 of the Reader. He runs every day until he is strong.

The story describes his run, from pages 4–12. People give him a lot of money for children with cancer because they think he is a brave person. He becomes famous. But he gets ill again, then he dies. The run becomes an annual event and takes place every September. The first Terry Fox run after his death made \$3,500,000 for cancer.

Read more on the website [www.terryfoxrun.org](http://www.terryfoxrun.org).

## Background and themes

**Sports:** Determination can play a part in success, even where there is a big disability, such as having only one leg.

**Biography:** A short life, but one with a purpose.

**Senses:** How does the story make you feel about Terry Fox, his mother and friends?

**Language work:** Possessives with nouns – examples in the text are: Canada's hero, Terry's name, Terry's leg, Terry's brother, Terry's statue, Isadore's message. Dates. Numbers.

## Communicative activities

The following activities cover the same sections of text as the exercises in the back of the Reader, and supplement those exercises.

### BEFORE YOU READ

Put students in groups and ask them to look at the photograph on the cover of the book and discuss:

What kind of person do you think Terry Fox was? Make a list of adjectives to describe him.

Do you think he is the sort of man you would like to meet?

### AFTER YOU READ

- (a) Ask students in pairs, to find the photos that fit the captions below.
    - He wears a t-shirt which says TERRY FOX MARATHON.
    - He runs early in the morning. We can see the sun shining on the top of trees.
    - Terry is resting with a drink.
    - Terry is running. He is smiling.
  - (b) Ask the students to make their own captions for the other photos in the book and write them down. Then they ask their partners to match their captions to the photos.
- Ask the students in groups to design a timeline for the story/marathon. Start on July 28th 1976 and finish on September 1981.

## Extra words

There are twenty extra words, in addition to the 200 headwords used in each Easystart title. The extra words used in this title are highlighted in question 1 at the back of the Reader. They are:

around artificial athlete award cancer die fight hero hope hospital lungs marathon message mile operate pain Prime Minister show statue world



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## Student's activities

### ACTIVITIES BEFORE READING THE BOOK

1 Look these words up in your dictionary if you don't know them.

marathon artificial award hero message

- The "Order of Canada" is the name of an \_\_\_\_ .
- The \_\_\_\_ of the book is Terry Fox
- On the cover the man has one real leg and one \_\_\_\_ leg.
- A race of many miles is called a \_\_\_\_ .
- You can send a \_\_\_\_ in a letter.

### ACTIVITIES WHILE READING THE BOOK

1 Answer the following questions.

#### Pages 1–4

- How old is Terry Fox at the beginning of the story?
- Where is the statue of Terry Fox?
- In the photo on page 1, who is looking at the statue?
- How long is he in hospital when doctors take off his leg?
- Who does he think of when he leaves hospital?
- How many miles is the long run?

#### Pages 5–9

- What does Terry think of the people in Newfoundland?
- Terry runs 550 miles (885km). How long does it take?
- When does Terry like running most? Is it in the early morning, afternoon or evening?
- Who goes with Terry on the marathon?
- In the photo on page 7, who is Terry speaking to?
- Terry has two problems in New Brunswick. What are they?
- What is the danger for Terry on the road in Quebec?

#### Pages 10–15

- Terry becomes famous. Is he happy?
- Who is the person in the photo with Terry? Is it Isadore Sharp or Pierre Trudeau?
- Who says to Terry, "See a doctor"?
- How many miles (kilometers) does Terry run before he stops?
- Why are his parents unhappy?
- Why do we remember Terry Fox today?

2 Are these statements right or wrong?:

- Terry is a runner before he has an artificial leg.
- The Long Road is from Newfoundland to New York.
- During the marathon, Terry sleeps in the day and runs at night because it is dangerous on the road.

(d) In Quebec they speak French.

(e) Isadore Sharp sells his hotel because he wants to make money.

(f) After the TV show, Terry makes \$1,000,000.

3 Who says...?

(a) "Only money can stop the pain."

(b) "See a doctor."

(c) "Give money."

(d) "We are very sorry about Terry."

(e) "Canada's hero."

4 Put these events in the right order:

(a) Today there are Terry Fox runs every year.

(b) There is a bad pain in his lungs.

(c) Terry gives his run a name – "Marathon of Hope."

(d) In Quebec some drivers drive near him.

(e) Terry gets angry with Doug.

(f) Terry's brother, Darrell, goes to see him.

5 Write the numbers in words.

(a) 18 years old

(b) March 9

(c) 5,300 miles

(d) 8,000 dollars

(e) \$600

### ACTIVITIES AFTER READING THE BOOK

1 Answer (a) or (b).

(a) Write the story in your own words.

(b) Which part of the story do you like most? Write about it.

2 (a) You have \$100,000,000 (a hundred million dollars). Write a short letter to a hospital. Say you want to give \$50,000,000 (fifty million dollars) to the hospital. Say you want to help children in hospital.

(b) What do you want to do with the other \$50,000,000?

Write a letter to a friend and tell him/her.

