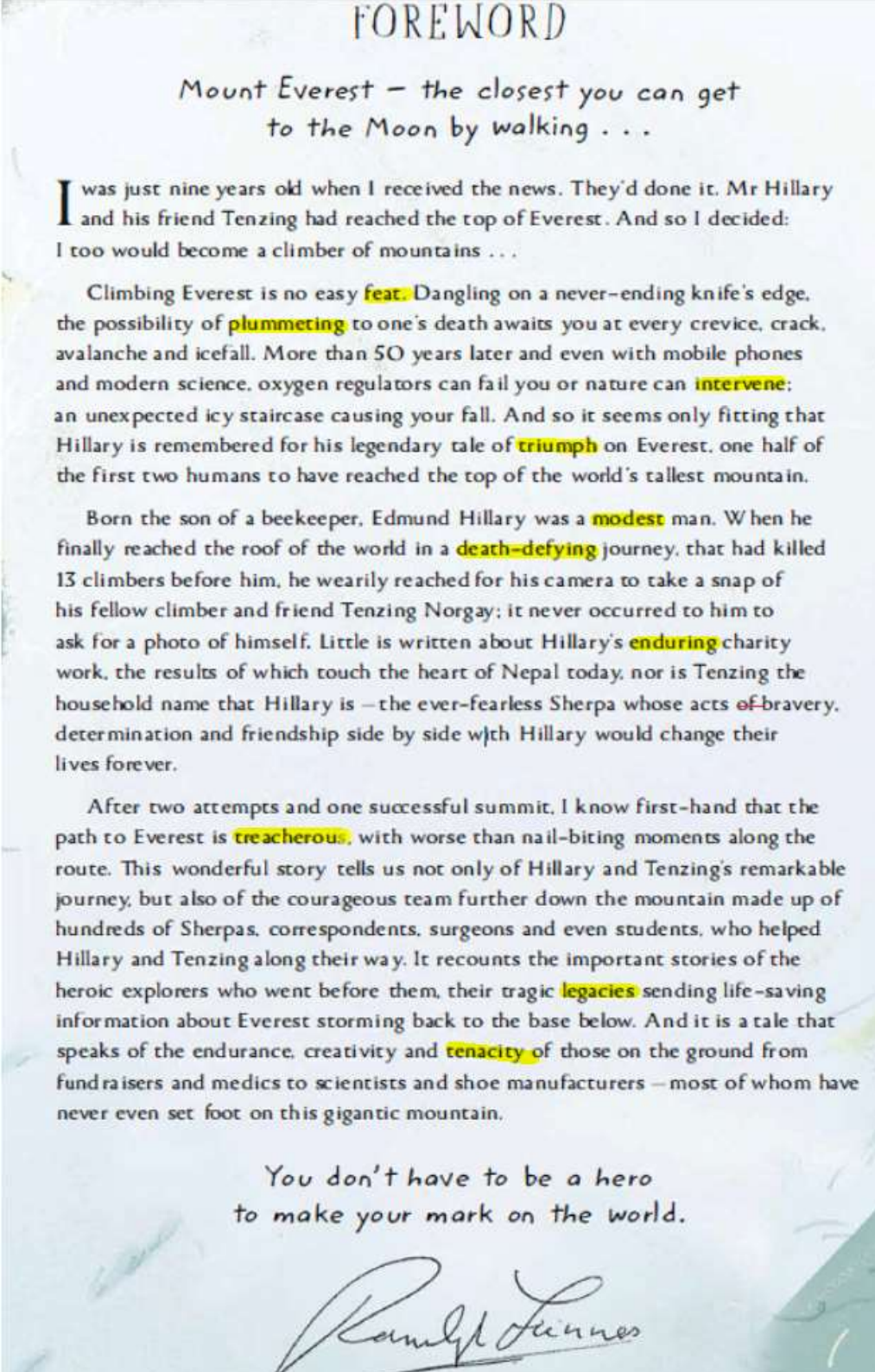


Y3,4 – Everest – Tuesday

LO: vocabulary

Read the text before attempting the activity on the next page. Click the video link on the website to hear me reading the text.



FOREWORD

*Mount Everest – the closest you can get
to the Moon by walking . . .*

I was just nine years old when I received the news. They'd done it. Mr Hillary and his friend Tenzing had reached the top of Everest. And so I decided: I too would become a climber of mountains . . .

Climbing Everest is no easy **feat**. Dangling on a never-ending knife's edge, the possibility of **plummeting** to one's death awaits you at every crevice, crack, avalanche and icfall. More than 50 years later and even with mobile phones and modern science, oxygen regulators can fail you or nature can **intervene**; an unexpected icy staircase causing your fall. And so it seems only fitting that Hillary is remembered for his legendary tale of **triumph** on Everest, one half of the first two humans to have reached the top of the world's tallest mountain.

Born the son of a beekeeper, Edmund Hillary was a **modest** man. When he finally reached the roof of the world in a **death-defying** journey, that had killed 13 climbers before him, he wearily reached for his camera to take a snap of his fellow climber and friend Tenzing Norgay; it never occurred to him to ask for a photo of himself. Little is written about Hillary's **enduring** charity work, the results of which touch the heart of Nepal today, nor is Tenzing the household name that Hillary is – the ever-fearless Sherpa whose acts of **bravery**, determination and friendship side by side with Hillary would change their lives forever.

After two attempts and one successful summit, I know first-hand that the path to Everest is **treacherous**, with worse than nail-biting moments along the route. This wonderful story tells us not only of Hillary and Tenzing's remarkable journey, but also of the courageous team further down the mountain made up of hundreds of Sherpas, correspondents, surgeons and even students, who helped Hillary and Tenzing along their way. It recounts the important stories of the heroic explorers who went before them, their tragic **legacies** sending life-saving information about Everest storming back to the base below. And it is a tale that speaks of the endurance, creativity and **tenacity** of those on the ground from fundraisers and medics to scientists and shoe manufacturers – most of whom have never even set foot on this gigantic mountain.

*You don't have to be a hero
to make your mark on the world.*

Ramulph Ferreres

For today's task, I'd like you to try to match the highlighted words in the text to the definitions below. Some or all of these words may be unfamiliar to you. Use the internet or a dictionary to find out what the word means. If using the internet type the word followed by definition and KS2 to hopefully get a child-friendly definition, eg *tenacity definition KS2*.

| word | definition |
|------|---|
| | To help prevent or change a result or course of events. |
| | Someone who is humble or shy and doesn't seek recognition for their achievements. |
| | Something that has hidden or unpredictable dangers. |
| | A great victory or achievement. |
| | An achievement that require great courage, skill or strength. |
| | If you have _____ , you are very determined and do not give up easily. |
| | Something that lasts for a very long time. |
| | Falling or dropping straight down at a high speed. |
| | Something that is a part of your history. |
| | Something that is very dangerous. |