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Level: B2, C1

PATAGONIA

Focus: Vocabulary

Theme: Voyages of exploration

Activity: Reading and vocabulary, Internet research

VIDEO AND VOCABULARY ACTIVITY

- 1. Ask students to brainstorm what they know about the first European visitors to the Americas.
- Tell the students they will watch a very short video related to the topic that they have just been talking about. Ask them to watch the video and say if they think the story will be a happy or sad one. Play the video.
- 3. Ask students to tell you anything they remember about the story in the video.
- 4. Give out the worksheet. Direct students to the Introduction and ask them to say who 'they' refers to in the second and last sentence. Check new vocabulary if necessary.
- 5 Put students into pairs. Ask them to look at the words from the song in the word square use them to complete the two texts Ask students to do exercise 1. Replay the video for them to check their answers.

key

1. fleet, 2. colony, 3. harsh, 4. settlers, 5. bones, 6. Famine, 7. landed, 8. 1584,

- 9. forsaken, 10. shore, 11. Stranded, 12. mercy, 13. graves, 14. weathered
- 6. Tell students to do exercise 2 individually and then to compare in pairs. You could give them the following advice:
 - look at the words in context in the Introduction and song.
 - look at the -ed and -s suffixes to decide what part of speech the words are.
 - look for related words eg weather, land

key

a. fleet, b. weathered, c. landed, d. colony, e. stranded, f. settlers, g. shore, h. graves, i. harsh, j. famine, k. mercy, l. forsaken

INTERNET RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Ask students to use the internet to find answers to these questions.

- 1. Why did the Spanish want a colony in the Magellan Strait? (To control this strategic shipping route from the Atlantic to the Pacific)
- 2. What name was first given to the 1584 Spanish colony? (City of King Phillip)
- 3. Who later named the colony Port Famine? (The British pirate, Thomas Cavandish)
- 4. The song says nobody survived. Is this completely true? (No. Thomas Cavandish rescued one man named Tomé Hernández).

PATAGONIA



1. Complete the texts below with words from the word-square.

INTRODUCTION

In 1584, Pedro Sarmiento de Gamboa, with a ¹f_____ of Spanish ships, landed in the Magellan Strait. They left a ²_____ of 300 people and sailed away. But the climate was cold and ³_____, and the ⁴s_____ couldn't find enough to eat. When another ship passed this way, three years later, they found nothing but graves and weathered ⁵_____. They named the place Port ⁶F_____...

SONG

The Spanish fleet sailed south across the ocean And ⁷_____ here in ⁸_____ It brought 300 people to the end of the world And left them on this lonely, God-⁹f_____ ¹⁰s_____ Patagonia!

¹¹S_____ in a land which showed no ¹²____ Fifteen thousand miles away from home With no-one left alive, no-one could survive Nothing left but ¹³____, ghosts and ¹⁴____ bones Patagonia!

- 2. Complete the definitions with words from the word-square.
- a. A group of ships = a fleet
- b. Damaged by weather = _____
- c. The ship reached the coast = the ship _____
- d. a village or town in a new land = a _____
- e. left in a place, not able to return home = _____
- f. people who start a life in a new land = _____
- g. place where the land meets the sea = _____
- h. places where a dead people are buried = _____
- i. a severe, unpleasant climate = a _____ climate
- j. a time of little or no food = a _____
- k. kindness = _____
- I. abandoned by God = God-____.

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