TERRY FOX: READ, RESEARCH, AND WRITE!

Topic 1 - Terry Fox's Accomplishment

You might know the story of Terry Fox, a young man who attempted to run across Canada in 1980 in order to raise money for cancer research. His journey was cut short when his cancer returned after 143 days of running. What was even more amazing about Terry is that he ran on one leg - of his own, that is. His other leg was a prosthesis, which is an artificial body part designed to replace a natural human one. Terry was born in 1958 and was diagnosed with bone cancer when he was just seventeen. He later admitted he cried when he heard the news. His leg was amputated within days and he had to learn to use an artificial leg. This was very hard on Terry, for he had been a superb athlete and even hoped of becoming a gym teacher. He also had to face cancer treatments which made him very sick.

During his treatments Terry met a lot of young people and children who also had cancer. He decided he wanted to raise money to find a cure for the disease and he came up with the idea of running across Canada. Although his run was never finished, his legacy lives on the hearts of Canadians and many millions of dollars have been raised in his name. Terry Fox died on June 28, 1981 at the age of twenty-two.

Now that you have read about Terry's accomplishment, your next step will be to research the run he made in 1980 and write about it. Include such information as when and where he started, how he coped day to day, and where and when it ended. You can also include other interesting facts that you found during your research. End with a concluding statement about how Terry's run has helped the cause of raising money to fight cancer.
Topic 2 - What is a Humanitarian?

When someone is called a humanitarian it means that they work unselfishly to help others. A humanitarian sees the suffering of human beings and wants to help them, often putting their needs before his or her own. Some do this for religious reasons, others just because they want to help.

There are many ways to actively help when other people are in need. You can volunteer your time (some people work at food banks, for example), you can use a skill you have to help others (such as teaching English to immigrants), or you can give money that you might otherwise spend on yourself to help someone who has a greater need.

Being a humanitarian means that you help others, but you might just help yourself, too! People often say they get a lot of satisfaction from giving to and helping others.

Your assignment is to apply the meaning of humanitarian to what Terry Fox did for his fellow human beings. Explain why what he did was unselfish and showed that he cared about others who had to face cancer. Conclude your paragraph by giving some examples of how ordinary people can help raise awareness and money about cancer and other diseases.