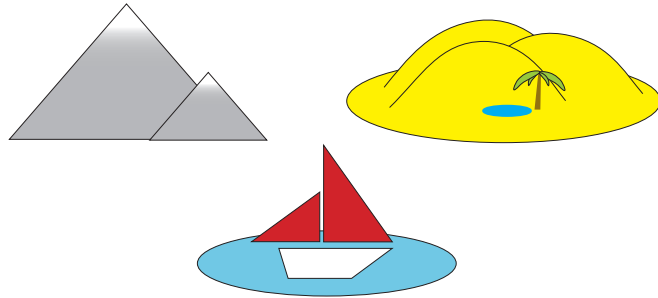


Homecoming hero

1 WARMER

Answer the questions and give reasons for your answers.

- a. Would you like to ...
... sail around the world?
... climb a mountain?
... drive across a desert?
- b. How old do you think someone should be in order to do these things (alone)?



2 WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Skim-read the article to find the words that fit in the gaps. The paragraph is given to help you.

- done by one person alone, without any help _____ (para 1)
- the final part of a journey or the final effort needed to finish _____ (para 2)
- When something is damaged severely so that it doesn't work properly, it is _____. (para 2)
- An unplanned meeting _____ (para 2)
- to complete your studies at a university or college, usually by getting a degree _____ (para 6)
- to show that you understand the importance or power of something _____ (para 7)
- making you feel annoyed and impatient because you are prevented from achieving something _____ (para 7)
- paying attention to what is happening and ready to react quickly if necessary _____ (para 8)
- a group of people or vehicles that move around a place in order to prevent trouble or crime _____ (para 9)
- to take money or property that was illegally taken from a person or place, often using threats or violence _____ (para 12, past tense)
- far away from other cities, towns or people _____ (para 16)
- to achieve something that you planned to do or attempted to do _____ (para 17)

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Homecoming hero

for about a week because of another problem with my boat. It was really dangerous. You can't walk around there alone at night or you might get robbed or even killed.

Homecoming

13 It's going to be incredible to return to the US at the end of this trip. I can't wait to see my family and friends. American food is the best! I miss it so much. We're also planning to do a road trip with my friends. We've bought an old van and will probably go to Mexico or across the US. It'll be nice to travel on land again after all these months at sea.

Media star

14 I did hundreds of interviews about my journey and answer all the questions and what to say. When I get home, I'll do interviews on at least three TV shows, including *The Oprah Winfrey Show*. That will be very exciting.

15 I'm used to being in front of the camera now. I've had cameras on my boat ever since leaving home. I talk about what's been happening. I hope to make a TV show when I get home. I've already started writing a book about my experience.

The next adventure

16 I could sail around the world giving sailing classes. Or I could go on a new adventure. I'm thinking about sailing across the top of Alaska for six months with a friend. We'd be alone for weeks at a time and stop on small, remote islands. That would be amazing.

17 The biggest thing I've learned in the last year is that you can do anything you want to do. Never let anyone tell you that you can't do it. If you have a dream, try hard to make it come true. Who knows? You might even succeed!"

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3 FIND THE INFORMATION

1. Approximately how long did it take Zac to sail around the world?
2. Approximately how many miles did he travel?
3. What did he not manage to do on the way?
4. Which place did he not like and why?
5. Which was his favourite place and why?
6. How did he escape the pirates?
7. How long was he on Saint Helena and why?
8. What is he looking forward to when he gets back?
9. Where will he go next and how?
10. Which famous person is going to interview him?

Homecoming hero

4 TEEN TALK: THE BEST

Look back at the article and complete the sentence.

Zac says “American food is the best!”

Teens use *cool* to say that ...

- a) ... they do not like something.
- b) ... they really like something and think it is better than everything else.
- c) ... something is acceptable or ok.

Who or what do you think is *cool*?

5 WRITING

In the article, Zac talks about being interviewed. Write six questions you would like to ask Zac during an interview. Use the question words below.

What Where Why Who When How

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

6 ROLE-PLAY

Work in groups of three (A, B and C).

- A is Zac
- B is the interviewer
- C is the camera operator / director

Combine the questions you wrote to make a longer interview. Practice asking and answering the questions. Add an introduction and an ending, and then film your interview with Zac. Show your video to your class.



Homecoming hero

7 WEBQUEST

Imagine you are going to travel around the world.

Where will you start from?

Which route will you take?

Which countries will you visit on the way?

How will you travel - by road, sea, air, or a combination of all three?

How many kilometres will you travel?

Use the Internet to answer all of the questions. Route planning websites and websites that include maps of the world (such as *Google Earth* and *Google Maps*) may help you.

Homecoming hero

KEY

2

1. solo
2. home stretch
3. crippled
4. encounter
5. graduate
6. respect
7. frustrating
8. alert
9. patrol
10. robbed
11. remote
12. succeed

4

- a. they really like something and think it is better than everything else.
- b. they really like something and think it is better than everything else.

3

1. A year.
2. 40,000
3. Graduate.
4. Port Moresby because it is so dangerous.
5. Cocos Keeling Island because it's so small and beautiful.
6. By locking himself in the cabin and calling the coast guard.
7. Three weeks because he had to wait for spare parts for the engine.
8. Cheeseburgers, surfing and skateboarding with his friends.
9. To Mexico in an old van with his friends.
10. Oprah Winfrey