

NEW CUTTING EDGE

INTERMEDIATE

Module 12 Dilemmas

- 1 Talk to your partner and discuss what you can remember about Debra Veal, the woman who rowed alone across the Atlantic.
- 2 You are going to find some information about Debra Veal (now Debra Searle) on her official web site. Type in: <http://www.debrasearle.com>. When the main page appears, click on **Biog** to find personal information about Debra. Now scroll down to find the answers to these questions.
 - a When was she born? _____
 - b How many brothers and sisters does she have? _____
 - c Where did she grow up? _____
 - d What did Debra study when she finished school? _____
 - e When did she graduate? _____
 - f What was Debra's first job? _____
- 3 To find out more about Debra's rowing experience, click on **Row** in the top right-hand corner.
 - a What did The Times call Debra? _____
 - b How tall is Debra? _____
 - c How tall is Andrew Veal? _____
 - d How long was the boat? _____
- 4 Now scroll down to **FAQs** and answer these questions:
 - a Why did Andrew drop out? _____
 - b What was the main danger in carrying on alone? _____
 - c What time did Debra wake up in the morning? _____
 - d How long did it take Debra to row across the Atlantic? _____
- 5 Browse the rest of the site and find other interesting information about Debra. Take notes here:

Share your information with your partner.

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TEACHER'S NOTES:

Module 12 Dilemmas

Aim: For students to find information in English on the Internet about Debra Veal (now Debra Searle) the woman who rowed alone across the Atlantic. This webquest can be done after completion of the listening about Debra's experiences on pages 122–123.

Time: Approximately 45 minutes.

Materials: Photocopies of the worksheet for each student.

- 1 Check that students are familiar with imperial measurements of feet and inches. Students then discuss with their partners what they can remember about Debra Veal, the woman who rowed across the Atlantic. Get feedback from the class.
- 2 Tell students they are going to look at Debra Veal's official web site. Make sure that students have opened the correct page and have clicked on **Biog**. Students scroll down the page to find the answers to the questions.
 - a When was she born? **8 July 1975**
 - b How many brothers and sisters did she have? **Two brothers and a sister**
 - c Where did she grow up? **Devon, England**
 - d What did Debra study when she finished school? **BEd in Physical Education and Art**
 - e When did she graduate? **1997**
 - f What was Debra's first job? **Teaching physical education and outdoor education**
- 3 Students now click on **Row** in the top right-hand corner to find the answer to the next questions.
 - a What did The Times call Debra? **Britain's latest sporting heroine**
 - b How tall is Debra? **5ft 5"**
 - c How tall is Andrew Veal? **6 ft 5"**
 - d How long was the boat? **23 feet**
- 4 Check that students have found the **FAQs** to answer the questions.
 - a Why did Andrew drop out? **Because he was suffering from acute anxiety and had an irrational fear of the ocean**
 - b What was the main danger in carrying on alone? **Tankers could easily hit her small rowing boat when Debra was asleep.**
 - c What time did Debra wake up in the mornings? **0500 hours**
 - d How long did it take Debra to row across the Atlantic? **111 days, 5 hours and 43 minutes**
- 5 Give students time to browse the rest of the site to find other interesting information about Debra. Students take notes and then share their information with their partners.