Fill in the gaps with the correct form of the verb in brackets. Then listen again and check.

Interviewer: Good evening Vanessa. You're going to tell us about your journey. Where _____(be) it from and to?

Vanessa: Well, my husband, Robert, and I had worked in Hong Kong for years. We _____(get) married there six years ago and _____(have) a baby there. But last year, we _____(give) up our jobs and _____(decide) to sail back to England, with the baby.

Interviewer: And how long did it _____(take) you to get ready for the trip?

Vanessa: We had six months to buy a boat and make sure we had everything we needed. My friends _____(not/believe) I could live in such a small space, but I was happy about that. I was most anxious about our health, particularly the baby, and I _____(start) collecting medicines in case we needed them.

Interviewer: And your first stop was Singapore?

Vanessa: Yes. The first part of the journey was the worst – we _____(be) sick all the time. I hadn't expected to hit bad weather so soon. We'd no worries about the boat, which had already been around the world once. In fact, when we reached Singapore, I wasn't sure about spending six more months on the boat and I considered flying home to England, but luckily decided not to. We _____(spend) six long boring weeks in Singapore waiting for the weather to improve.

Interviewer: And you were joined by your father-in-law?

Vanessa: On the next part of the journey, my father-in-law joined us with a friend of his, who's a cook. It was wonderful to have a cook to prepare meals. This gave Robert and me more time. My father-in-law was very happy to take care of the baby while we _____(sail) the boat.

Interviewer: And did the baby _____(enjoy) the trip?

Vanessa: He did, I think. He loved climbing up the steps in the boat. He spent the first year of his life at sea. While he was awake we _____(play) with him because it was dangerous to leave him alone. I'm sure this is why he wants us to play with him all the time now. I worried that he wouldn't learn to walk, but he had no problems. He´ll only eat particular foods, but all children are like that, whether they've been on a boat or not.

Interviewer: And do you have any advice for other people sailing with children?

Vanessa: Children are happy on long journeys as long as they have plenty to do onboard. It's dangerous otherwise. We just had one child with us, but it might be better with two or three who can play together.

Interviewer: Well, has anyone got any questions?

LIVEWORKSHEETS