# EFL A VOYAGE INTO THE PAST

### Read the article quickly and match the words and the definitions.

reed
 give up
 sample
 prove
 A show that something is true
 a small amount as an example
 a river plant with long stems
 prove
 stop doing something

#### 3 Read the article again and match the headings A–F with paragraphs 1–6.

- A Did Ra cross the Atlantic Ocean?
- B How did he build his first boat? 1
- C How did Thor Heyerdahl choose his crew?
- D What ecological problem did they find?
- E What did the journey of Ra II prove?
- F When did he make his second journey?

#### 4 Decide if the sentences are true or false.

- 1 The first Ra boat was 15 metres long. true
- 2 Thor had a crew of people from Mexico, Egypt and the United States.
- 3 The first journey lasted for 54 days.
- 4 The second journey lasted for 197 days.
- 5 Both Ra boats reached Barbados.
- 6 There was pollution in the Atlantic in 1970.



5 Read Word Zone and put the words in order of length, starting with the shortest.



## Measurements of length and distance

People often use both metric and nonmetric measurements in English.

Metric: centimetre, kilometre, metre,

millimetre

Non-metric: foot, inch, mile, yard

6 Try to complete the biography of Thor Heyerdahl with these verbs in the past simple. Then listen and check.

build die go receive sail study



Thor Heyerdahl was born in October 1914 in Norway. He 'studied zoology and geography at university. In 1947, he <sup>2</sup> ... a boat called *Kon-Tiki* and <sup>3</sup> ... it with five other men on a 9,600 km journey across the Pacific. He also <sup>4</sup> ... on many other expeditions and promoted understanding between cultures. He <sup>5</sup> ... many awards, too. Thor <sup>6</sup> ... suddenly in 2002. You can still see the *Ra* and *Kon-Tiki* boats in Oslo today.