

READING

An article

1 ★★ Read the article quickly and answer the questions.

1 What is the name of the young man in photo A?

2 What is the name of the wave in photo B?

2 ★★ Match the words in bold in the article with the definitions.

1 very surprised amazed

2 a physical or mental power to do something ability

3 a person who teaches other people instructor

4 water that moves over the top of the sea wave

5 very difficult challenging

6 wanting to do something very much determined

3 ★★ Are the sentences T (true) or F (false)? Correct the false sentences.

1 Derek's favourite surfer was also called Derek.

F Derek's father's favourite surfer was also called Derek.

2 Derek didn't surf until he was a teenager.

3 Derek's father taught Derek to surf.

4 Derek can hear which direction he needs to surf in.

5 People who saw Derek in Hawaii were very surprised.

6 Derek went to Hawaii to make a film with a producer.

4 ★★★ Answer the questions in your own words.

1 Why do you think Derek was determined to try surfing?

2 What do you think inspired the film producer to make a film about Derek?

Home Posts Archives

A



SURF WITHOUT SIGHT

Derek Rabelo was born in Brazil in 1992. His father called him Derek after a famous surfing champion, Derek Ho – his father's favourite surfer. Derek's father wanted Derek to become a surfer, too, but there was a problem: unfortunately, Derek was born blind. His father's dream to see his son surf seemed impossible!

When Derek was 17, his father told him about his dream. From that moment, Derek was **determined** to try to become a surfer. He went to the beach with his father every day and started taking surfing lessons with an **instructor**. Derek kept trying and finally, he learned to surf!

Derek explains that although he can't see, he understands the noises that the **waves** make and he can hear them when they are coming. He says every part of a wave makes a different noise, so he knows which direction to surf in.

In 2012, he flew to Hawaii to surf the famous Banzai Pipeline – one of the most **challenging** and dangerous waves in the world. Local surfers were **amazed** to see the confident young blind man surf the huge wave with no problem at all.

While Derek was surfing in Hawaii, he met a film producer who believed that Derek had an amazing **ability**. The producer decided to make a film about him. *Beyond Sight* tells Derek's inspirational story and teaches us that nothing is impossible if you believe in yourself!

B



UNIT 1 | BE INSPIRED 9