COOK STRAIT SWIMMER

David Johnson has loved swimming all his life. When he was 27, he swam in a race near his home in the USA: The sea was very cold and David started to feel unwell. He was taken to hospital but he soon got better and started swimming again. In 1983, he became the first person to swim from Santa Cruz Island to the California coast.

In January 2004, at the age of 52, David crossed New Zealand's cook Strait in 9 hours and 38 minutes. The oldest swimmer before David was only 42 years old. David spent over a year getting ready to swim the Strait. Then, he and his wife flew to New Zealand so that David could practice for a few weeks there. But only days after they arrived, the weather improved so David decided to start his swim. He did it with the help of a team. "They were great," David said. "They were in a boat next to me all the time! After a few hours, I thought about stopping but I didn't and went on swimming".

Afterwards, David and his wife travelled around New Zealand before returning to the USA.

	Right	Wrong	Doesn't Say
1. David Johnson has always enjoyed swimming.	X	X	X
2. David Johnson had problems during a swimming competition in the USA.	X	X	X
3. After 1983, many people swam between Santa Cruz Island and the Californian coast.	X	X	X
4. In January 2004, David was the first person of his age to swim across the Cook Strait.	X	X	X
5. David practised for more than a year to swim across the Cook Strait.	X	X	X
6. David was in New Zealand for a long time before he swam across the Cook Strait.	X	X	X
7. David's wife was in the boat beside him when he swam the Cook Strait.	X	X	X
8. David had to stop for a short time while swimming the Cook Strait.	X	X	X

LIVEWORKSHEETS