

TOURISTS' FISHING TRIP DISASTER

1.21

A dream holiday turned into a nightmare for an American brother and sister called Dan and Kate Suski. They were enjoying a fishing trip in the Caribbean, near the **stunning** island of St Lucia, when their boat sank, leaving them and their captain to fight for their lives.

The fishing trip began well enough. The weather wasn't **brilliant**, but Dan wasn't complaining: he had a **huge** fish on his line! He was trying to pull it onto the boat and Kate was helping him.

But then, the captain realised there was a problem. Water was coming into the cabin and the boat was sinking fast. The captain used his radio to send a message for help. Then he shouted to the Suskis, 'Jump out! Jump out!' They were about 15 km from land.

The captain told the Suskis to wait with him in the water. Help was coming. The weather was now **awful**, but they were wearing life jackets. After an hour, the captain and the Suskis lost each other, and there was no sign of rescue. They were both thinking the same **terrifying** thought: sharks!

A plane and a helicopter appeared in the sky, but nobody saw Dan and Kate in the water. Hours passed and night came. The Suskis swam for fourteen hours. Then, in the moonlight, they saw some cliffs. They were only a few metres from land!

The waves were breaking against sharp rocks; it was too dangerous. So Kate and Dan swam past the cliffs. By now, they were **exhausted**. Eventually, they reached a sandy beach.

Then they started to look for a town or village. On the way, they picked and ate green bananas. Dan said later that it was the worst – and best – food of his life! After three hours, they met a young farm worker. He also gave them some **tragic** news: the captain was lost at sea.

Dan and Kate Suski spent a few days in hospital. Their story appeared in news programmes around the world. And there was one final piece of **astounding** news: the captain also survived. A rescue boat found him after 23 hours in the water!



- A So Dan and Kate started to swim as fast as they could towards land.
- B The captain helped them as they climbed onto dry land.
- C He gave them water and food, and stayed with them until the police arrived.
- D So they did, and a few minutes later, the boat disappeared under the waves.
- E Out of the water at last, they lay down and rested.
- F But the sharks swam away after a few minutes.
- G But they couldn't get out of the water here.

Match sentences A-G with gaps 1-5 in the text. There are two extra sentences.

1

2

3

4

5

Read the text again. Are the sentences true or false? Write T or F.

- 1 When Dan and Kate were fishing, the weather was brilliant. ____
- 2 Dan was the first person to see that there was a problem with the boat. ____
- 3 The boat sank before Dan and Kate could jump into the water. ____
- 4 A helicopter saw Dan and Kate in the sea, but it couldn't rescue them. ____
- 5 When Dan and Kate reached land, they couldn't get out of the water at first. ____
- 6 There was nobody on the beach when Dan and Kate got out of the sea. ____
- 7 The captain swam to the beach a few hours after Dan and Kate. ____