



General Certificate of Secondary Education  
Foundation Tier  
June 2014

## English/English Language

ENG1F

Unit 1 Understanding and producing non-fiction texts

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### Insert

The three sources that follow are:

- **Source 1:** an online article called 'Brother and sister swim 14 hours for their lives after fishing boat sinks'
- **Source 2:** an extract called 'To The Lifeboats', from a children's book 'Explore the Titanic'
- **Source 3:** an extract from a book of travel writing called 'Scary Monsters and Super Creeps' by Dom Joly.

Please open the insert fully  
to see all three sources

Source 1

**AP** Associated Press in San Juan guardian.co.uk

 THE BIG STORY
 

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# Brother and sister swim 14 hours for their lives after fishing boat sinks

Caribbean jaunt turns to horror but American duo manage to reach land and struggle ashore, while crew also survive.



Dan and Kate Suski after their ordeal

An American brother and sister have survived a 14-hour swim to safety in the Caribbean after the fishing boat they had chartered sank off the north coast of St Lucia.

Dan Suski, a 30-year-old IT professional from San Francisco, said he had been fishing in rough seas with help from his sister, Kate Suski, a 39-year-old architect from Seattle, when the ship got into trouble on 21 April. Water rushed into the cabin and flooded the engine room.

As the waves pounded the boat, more water flooded in. The captain threw life jackets to the Suskis. "He said, 'Jump out! Jump out!'"

The Suskis obeyed and jumped into the water with the captain and first mate. Less than five minutes later the boat sank. They were at least eight miles from shore and being tossed by tall waves. "The captain was telling us to stay together, and that help was on its way and that we needed to wait," Kate Suski said.

After an hour, when no help came, the Suskis decided to swim for it and lost sight of the captain and first mate. A plane and a helicopter appeared in the distance and hovered over the area but no one

spotted the siblings. Several hours went by, and the sun began to set. Kate Suski said, "We both considered the possible ways we might die. Would we drown? Be eaten by a shark?"

"Hypothermia?" Dan Suski asked.

"Would our legs cramp up and make it impossible to swim?" the sister continued.

They swam for 12 to 14 hours, talking as they pushed and shivered their way through the ocean.

When in the moonlight they finally came within about 10 metres of land they realised that they were looking at sheer rocky cliffs and would be battered to death against them if they tried to approach any closer.

They swam until they noticed a spit of sand nearby around midnight, dragged themselves ashore and collapsed before laying side by side, pulling up grass and brush to cover themselves and stay warm. After resting they pushed inland, hiking through thick brush, picking up bitter mangoes and green bananas along the way to eat. The Suskis were treated in hospital later.

The captain and mate were rescued after spending nearly 23 hours in the water.

## Source 2: To The Lifeboats

## TO THE LIFEBOATS

Panic and confusion grew as news of the emergency spread and the lifeboats were lowered. There had been no lifeboat drill, so many of the passengers and crew didn't know what to do.

### WOMEN AND CHILDREN FIRST

Officers Murdoch and Lightoller were in charge of the lifeboats on each side of the ship. They filled them with women and children first, plus a few crewmen to pull the oars. Many women did not want to leave their husbands behind and some lifeboats left the ship half-empty.

### THE LAST BOATS

As it became clear that the Titanic was really sinking, there was a scramble for places in the lifeboats. By the time the third-class passengers managed to find their way to the top deck, almost all of the lifeboats had gone.

This artist's impression shows the lifeboats being filled in an orderly way, with women saying goodbye to the men, who stand back.

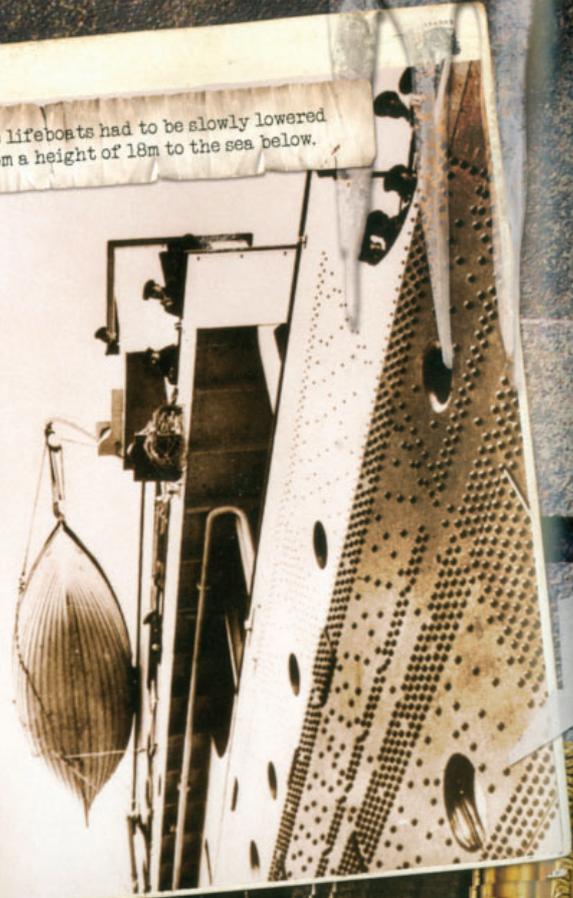


*"There weren't enough boats to take half the people and the chances of the other half in that icy cold water were absolutely nil."*

Second Officer, Charles Lightoller.



The lifeboats had to be slowly lowered from a height of 18m to the sea below.



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Source 1: 'Brother and sister swim 14 hours for their lives after fishing boat sinks.' Copyright © Associated Press. Photograph © Dan and Kate Suski.

Source 2: Extract from 'Explore the Titanic' by Peter Crisp, 2011. Photograph © Topfoto

Source 3: Extract from 'Scary Monsters and Super Creeps' by Dom Joly. Published by Simon and Schuster Ltd, 2012.

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### Source 3

This is an extract from 'Scary Monsters and Super Creeps', where travel writer Dom Joly is looking for world famous monsters. Here he is sailing on a Canadian lake looking for a thirty foot snake-like creature called Ogopogo.

### Scary Monsters and Super Creeps

The lake was rough – very rough – and my little boat and I started to be tossed about quite violently. I looked around. Mine was the only boat on the whole lake. Was this a wise thing to be doing? I looked up at the steep sides of the valley that towered high up above the dark water and I felt very, very tiny in my little vessel. I gunned the engine and the boat speeded up, bumping fast across endless advancing walls of enemy waves.

About ten minutes in and the lake got even rougher. Huge waves battered the front of the boat and I was forced to slow right down. The clouds above me darkened and the boat started to be chucked about like a piece of driftwood. I suddenly got nervous. What was I doing here? There was nobody about to help me if I got tipped over, and the water was ice-cold. It would definitely get me before Ogopogo did.

To my right, the landscape looked rather nightmarish. Back in 2003 a huge fire laid waste to the forest. Now the stark grey rock is littered with the burnt skeletons of dead trees. It was crazy but I was starting to get very spooked. The lake was crazy rough now and I tried to hug the barren, burnt shoreline to get some calmer water. The cliffs loomed over me like predatory giants and I got really freaked out by a weird noise. It sounded like howling – evil howling. Then I realised it was just one of the ropes holding my canopy. I looked down into the water: my depth finder told me it was 600 feet deep. I tried to man up and carried on rounding Squally Point, where the lake turned right. As I did so, I spotted my goal: Rattlesnake Island was dead ahead.

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**Open out this page to see  
Source 2 and Source 3**