

Questions 15–28 are about *Swimming the English Channel*
(pages 6–7)

- 15 Nearly twenty-two hours later, the exhausted man staggered onto French soil at Calais and became an instant hero.

Find and **copy two** different words from the sentence above that show how tired Matthew Webb was.

1. _____

2. _____

1 mark

- 16 What event made Matthew Webb want to swim the English Channel?

1 mark

- 17 Look at the paragraph beginning: *Twenty-seven-year-old Webb...*

Find and **copy one** word from this paragraph that is closest in meaning to 'motivated'.

1 mark



18

Using information from the text, put a tick in the correct box to show whether each statement is **true** or **false**.

	True	False
Matthew Webb's first attempt to swim the English Channel was not successful.		
The first successful swim of the English Channel was in 1872.		
J.B. Thompson and Matthew Webb swam the English Channel in 1875.		
Matthew Webb took twenty hours to swim the English Channel.		

2 marks

19

Name **two** of the hardships that Matthew Webb faced in swimming the English Channel and explain how he dealt with them.

1. Hardship: _____

How he dealt with it: _____

2. Hardship: _____

How he dealt with it: _____

2 marks



20

Find and **copy** a group of words that tells you that the drinks of ale, brandy and beef tea given to Matthew Webb would be considered unusual today.

1 mark

21

Why do slow Channel swimmers swim further than faster swimmers?

1 mark

22

Look at the section headed: ***Frequently asked questions.***

How long did the fastest swim across the Channel take?

1 mark



23

Look at the section headed: ***Frequently asked questions.***

Put a tick in the correct box to show whether each of the following statements is a **fact** or an **opinion**.

	Fact	Opinion
The temperature of the water in the Channel can range from 12°C to 18°C.		
Water with a temperature of 18°C is too cold to swim in.		
The direct distance across the Channel is approximately 21 miles.		
Faster swimmers do not swim as many miles across the Channel.		

2 marks

24

In what year did the French authorities make it illegal for people to swim from France to England?

1 mark



25 Look at the section headed: ***Safe to swim?***

Find and **copy one** word which shows that swimming the Channel is illegal in France.

1 mark

26 David Walliams was determined to be successful in his attempt to swim the English Channel.

Give **one** piece of evidence from the text which shows this.

1 mark

27 Which of the following would be the most suitable summary of the whole text?

Tick **one**.

The Life of David Walliams

A Sporting Challenge

Sailing the Channel

Training for Survival

1 mark



28

Draw lines to match each section to its main content.

One has been done for you.

Section	Content
<i>The first Channel swimmer</i>	summarises key information about swimming the Channel
<i>Frequently asked questions</i>	shows contrasting viewpoints about swimming the Channel
<i>Safe to swim?</i>	gives information about the origins of swimming the Channel
<i>Celebrity swimmer</i>	highlights the continuing attractions of swimming the Channel

1 mark

