

NB: This is not a word-for-word transcript

Language point: Past simple and past continuous

Phil (voiceover)

Hello again. It's day 45. Passepartout and I were sleeping like babies when we suddenly heard a loud creaking and cracking sound. What could it be? We're in the middle of the Indian Ocean so we can't have hit any rocks. Sophia is up on deck steering the yacht – I need to find out what's going on.

PP

(Waking up) Err... what's all that noise? **I was having a wonderful dream – I was saving** the Titanic from hitting an iceberg...

Phil

Passepartout, something's happened.

PP

What? Err, where's this water coming from?

Phil

I'm going up to the deck... Sophia, Sophia, what was that noise? Sophia? Where's Sophia?! She's not here!

PP

Out of the way, let me have a look... No, she's definitely gone... but hold on, look, we've been swept onto a beach.

Phil

We're shipwrecked!

Phil (voiceover)

We've landed on a huge, yellow, sandy beach. And beyond the beach there's a line of palm trees – with coconuts growing on them. It looks like some kind of tropical island. Our satnav says we are at 11 degrees south, 100 degrees east - but according to the map there shouldn't be any land at this location. Why are we here, and where is Sophia?

PP

Phil look, there's a hole in the yacht – that's why the water's coming in.

Phil

Oh no - what are we going to do? We're castaways, stuck here forever.

PP

Of course we're not. Just go and collect some palm leaves and a few bits of driftwood.

Luckily I learnt some yacht repair skills from a TV programme I watched. I should be able to patch her up.

Phil

Aye aye captain. We need to get back to sea as soon as possible to look for Sophia.

PP

Hmm, I don't think we'll see her again. The ocean is huge: it's like looking for a needle in a haystack.

Phil

We must try.

Phil (voiceover)

*We can't give up on Sophia now. I've collected all the bits that Passepartout needs for the repairs. I've made a small fire so I can boil some water and make some much-needed tea. **Whilst I was beachcombing I found a beautiful shell.** According to my encyclopaedia, it is a rare type of conch shell. That's lucky – it is one of the things I need to collect as part of my challenge. Hmm, that's one bit of good news in a sea of bad news. Right, I just need to take a few photos before we go to put on my travel blog...*

PP

OK, the yacht is fixed, well sort of – give me a hand to scoop out the water that got inside. We'll need to head for somewhere where we can get some proper repairs done. But I think we can be on our way. OK, you just need to help me push her out to sea. Here goes...

PP

.... Jump on Phil. I'll get the sails up and we'll be on our way.

Phil

Hey look Passepartout – we've picked up a stowaway. A parrot!

PP

Hmm, wonderful, now I've got someone I can have a proper conversation with!

Phil

I think we should keep it – it might bring us some good luck.

PP

If you say so. Now look, according to our map, I think we'll miss Indonesia and head for Papua New Guinea. With a good tail-wind we should be there... mmm... tomorrow – yes?

Phil

No Passepartout! We need to sail around here first to search for Sophia. She can't be far away – maybe **she fell off when we hit the beach?**

PARROT SQUAWK

Phil

Hey, I think it's seen something. Quick - where are the binoculars? There! I can see something.

Phil (voiceover)

Sure enough – the parrot has seen something. We've got closer and yes! It is Sophia – she's floating on some kind of shipping container. I thought she was gone forever, but she's back - and I'm so happy.

Sophia

Phil, Passepartout, over here. Throw me a rope. Oh I'm so pleased to see you again. Oh I'm so hungry and thirsty. I'm so sorry. **I fell asleep and a big wave threw me overboard. I tried to call out... but you didn't hear me. I saw that old container and swam towards it. I was drifting about on it** – I thought I would never see you again – I thought I was going to die - but Phil, **you saved me.**

Phil

Well... I did, didn't I? But **Passepartout helped me** too, I think. **He fixed the boat.**

Sophia

Oh yes, well done – and who is your new friend?

PP

Just some parrot. **It decided** to perch on our yacht. It hasn't got a name yet but I suppose it can join us for this trip.

Sophia

Ah, he's cute... I'll try and think of a name. In the meantime, how about some of that wonderful tea Phil? Come on Passepartout, we've no time to waste, we've got to get moving if we're going to win this race.

PP

What? Yes, I know that.

Phil (voiceover)

*The team is back together. I'm so pleased **we found Sophia** – although I'm not so sure Passepartout is. We **were making very good progress until we got shipwrecked. That cost us a lot of time** and now, only hard work and good luck will get us back to London in 80 days. Our next stop is Papua New Guinea, where we can finish repairing The Mermaid. But how long will that take? Time is running out.*

Vocabulary: Shipwrecks

shipwrecked

unable to go anywhere because your ship/boat has been damaged in an accident

castaways

people who are left on an island or beach (where there are no other people) because their ship has been sunk or damaged

marooned

left or stuck in a place that you cannot leave

driftwood

wood that is floating on the sea or brought onto the beach by the sea

beachcombing

searching a beach for shells or valuable or useful objects