

## Couple who quit jobs and sold belongings to sail round the world lose everything as boat capsizes two days into journey

A couple who sold all of their possessions so they **could** sail around the world **have been left with** nothing after their boat **sank** just two days into their journey. Tanner Broadwell and Nikki Walsh began their adventure on a **28-foot** sailboat last week, **setting off** from the marina in Tarpon Springs.



Two days later, the emergency services were called to reports of a **capsized** boat in the Gulf of Mexico, near Madeira Beach – about 25 miles down the coast.



While sailing through the popular tourist area, the bottom of their boat **struck** an **unseen** object underwater and quickly started to take on water, forcing them to evacuate. They ended up with **just** their two-year-old dog Remy, their social security cards, a mobile phone and some dog food and clothes.

Speaking after the incident, the couple said they had planned to escape **the rat race** by living on the sailboat after leaving Breckenridge, Colorado, last year. “I sold everything I had to do this,” Tanner said. “I lost everything in **a matter of** 20 minutes.”

Tanner, 26, is originally from Florida, where he grew up, and worked in marketing for a firm in the tourist industry. He met Nikki, 24, in Philadelphia while he was there for work, but told journalists they both got “tired” of the sales lifestyle, “of doing things to make people do the things they don’t want to do”.

That’s when they **hatched** the plan to **give it all up** and sail around the world. For two years they planned and **saved**, with Tanner driving for Uber to **earn** extra money. In April 2017, they sold everything they had, including his **SUV**, and bought the 1969 boat they named ‘Lagniappe’ (which is Creole for ‘bonus’) for \$5,000, spending the same again to restore it.

Up until that **point**, the couple had no sailing experience, so they spent the next few months learning from Tanner’s father. It was only this month that they decided they were ready, and were given a grand **send-off** by friends in Tarpon Springs.

Two days later, the Lagniappe had sunk. The boat remains in the water, and the coast guard has told the couple it **could** cost up to \$10,000 to remove and store it. They only have \$90.

They may now move in with Tanner's mother and look for work. But they still want to keep their dream alive. "I'm not going to give up now," Tanner said. "I'm going to get another boat down the road. Ok, we weren't successful the first time, but we **could** succeed the next time."

"We can't just give up our dreams," Nikki said.

### 1. Put the following events in the correct chronological order:

- (a) Tanner Broadwell met Nikki Walsh at work in Philadelphia. 2
- (b) In 2017 the couple sold everything they had and bought a boat. 5
- (c) Tanner grew up in Florida.
- (d) Their boat struck an unseen object and sank, forcing them to evacuate. 7
- (e) For two years they planned and saved.
- (f) They have only \$90 and their dog.
- (g) Nikki and Tanner became tired of the sales lifestyle.
- (h) They began their adventure by setting off from the marina at Tarpon Springs.

### 2. Look for the words and phrases in the text which are underlined in **yellow** and match them with their synonyms and meanings below:

- |                      |                       |                         |                   |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 8.5-metre            | hidden                | capitalist work culture | hit               |
| only managed to keep | only                  | only                    | 4-wheel-drive car |
| a goodbye party      | descended under water | sometime in the future  |                   |
| abandon everything   | overturned            | moment                  | originated        |
| accumulated money    | starting a journey    | work to be paid         |                   |

### 3. Grammar: **could** (hypothetical future and real past). Look at the three examples of **could** in the text (marked in bold) - do they refer to a **real past** or a **hypothetical future**?

4. Make sentences with 'could' by combining the following information from below; also, note whether the sentence refers to either (a) a **real past**, or (b) a **hypothetical future**:

- a. **become a popular holiday destination.**
- b. **drive as fast as we like.**
- c. **be the next US President.**
- d. **sing, dance and play many different instruments.**
- e. **play basketball better than anybody .**
- f. **escape from any situation.**
- g. **put my toes in my mouth.**

- h. **beat Rocky Marciano in a boxing match.**
- i. **soon be richer than the USA.**
- j. **smoke a cigar in the waiting room.**
- k. **make even more money now that he has died.**
- l. **be struck by an asteroid at any moment.**
- m. **be present on Mars.**

- i. **Kanye West, Lady Gaga, Michelle Obama or Oprah Winfrey ...**
- ii. **When I was a baby, I ...**
- iii. **China ...**
- iv. **Mars ...**
- v. **The Earth ...**
- vi. **When he was a young man, Michael Jordan ...**
- vii. **If we were on a German motorway, we ...**
- viii. **Harry Houdini was a famous magician who, according to his reputation, ...**
- ix. **In the 1950s, nobody ...**
- x. **Michael Jackson ...**
- xi. **Prince ...**
- xii. **Water ...**
- xiii. **In the 1960s, when a baby was born, fathers ...**

5. Discuss the following:

**(a) Do you think Tanner and Nikki are right to want to save up to buy another boat, or should they just stay in the rat race like everybody else?**

**(b) Have you ever been disappointed with an important plan you made which didn't go exactly as you had planned?**

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## **ANSWERS:**

- (a) Tanner Broadwell met Nikki Walsh at work in Philadelphia. **2**
- (b) In 2017 the couple sold everything they had and bought a boat. **5**
- (c) Tanner grew up in Florida. **1**
- (d) Their boat struck an unseen object and sank, forcing them to evacuate. **7**
- (e) For two years they planned and saved. **4**
- (f) They have only \$90 and their dog. **8**
- (g) Nikki and Tanner became tired of the sales lifestyle. **3**
- (h) They began their adventure by setting off from the marina at Tarpon Springs. **9**

- i. *Kanye West, Lady Gaga, Michelle Obama or Oprah Winfrey could be the next US President.*
- ii. *When I was a baby, I could put my toes in my mouth.*
- iii. *China could soon be richer than the USA.*
- iv. *Mars could become a popular holiday destination.*
- v. *The Earth could struck by an asteroid at any moment.*
- vi. *When he was a young man, Michael Jordan could play basketball better than anybody.*
- vii. *If we were on a German motorway, you could drive as fast as we like.*
- viii. *Harry Houdini was a famous magician who, according to his reputation, could escape from any situation.*
- ix. *In the 1950s, nobody could beat Rocky Marciano in a boxing match.*
- x. *Michael Jackson could make even more money now that he has died.*
- xi. *Prince could sing, dance and play many different instruments.*
- xii. *Water could be present on Mars.*
- xiii. *In the 1960s, when a baby was born, fathers could smoke a cigar in the waiting room.*