

Roz Savage

Rowing for Change



Level: Advanced

Topic: Change makers

Key vocabulary: Bilingual lists in PDF and boxes. (Teachers can download this material from the online version of the magazine.)

Preparation: A copy of the article for each student, pictures of water sports, internet access.

Objective: Students read about taking action on environmental issues and become aware of the importance of doing what they love in life.

Warm up

Show your students pictures of some common water sports (swimming, water polo, surfing, kayaking and of course rowing) to recycle vocabulary they may know. Pre-teach or revise words like boat, rowboat, rudder, oar, to row, a rower.

Make your students focus their attention in the picture of “rowing.” Ask them how much they know about this sport and if they know anyone who practices it. If they don’t know any athlete who practices this sport introduce them to Roz Savage.

Tell them that athletes usually race against each other on rivers, on lakes or on the ocean, depending upon the type of race and discipline but Roz does it for a very different purpose.

Main Activity

1. Give each student a copy of the article
2. Ask students to scan the text and find out what is Roz’s motivation for rowing.
3. You can always prepare comprehension activities and hand them out to students while they are reading.
4. Ask questions to check comprehension.
 - When did she decide to start rowing and why?
 - How does she communicate with the rest of the world?
 - What were the three stages of her rowing solo adventure in 2008?
 - What does she do to have fresh water in the middle of the ocean?
5. Speaking: Allow some time for discussion. Remind students that Roz had a very typical life before she decided to become a rower. Here are some sample questions to motivate discussion:
 - a) Would you change your “typical life” to make an impact in people’s lives?
 - b) Do you think Roz rows solo across the ocean just because she wants to become a celebrity?
 - c) Could this be possible without technology.



Follow up

Becoming a journalist.

Students work individually in this stage. Give them the title of their homework:
“My interview with Roz Savage.”

Explain to your students that they are going to interview Roz. Give them time in class to write their questions. Point out that they will also have to provide the answers to the questions. Encourage them to read the article as many times as they need because it is a valuable source for questions and answers.

In www.teatime-mag.com your students can read the articles that also feature attractive and motivating designs, as well as pictures that make reading easier and more appealing.

They can also listen to the articles as they read and download the audio version in mp3 format for free.