

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

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**Phil**

*Hello again. It's Phil here. You may know that I've been set a challenge to sail around the world in 80 days – **it's an impossible challenge** especially as I have never sailed a yacht before. But I said 'yes' – so here it goes...*

**Tom**

So, here we at Saint Catherine's Dock and look – here's my yacht – *The Mermaid* - **I know she's a bit scruffy** but I'm sure she'll get you round the world...

**Phil**

Hmm, on my own! That's the bit that worries me. **It's a very small boat.**

**Tom**

It's a yacht – not a boat – look: **it's got a sail!** Anyway, you'll be fine. Just call me on the satellite phone if you have any problems.

**PP**

Hello, hi. Phil. Phil! It's me.

**Phil**

Pete, **what are you doing here?**

**Phil**

*Pete is my office assistant: **He makes the tea, he does the photocopying, he sometimes gives me ideas for my books.** He's a great guy – so I'm really pleased to see him now...*

**PP**

Tom posted a message on Facebook that you're going on a trip round the world, or something. I couldn't believe my eyes – so I had to come here and see for myself. Look, I've brought you some books to read... and a map – you'll find that useful.

**Phil**

I will... but what I really need is a travelling companion... someone who can help me on my journey... someone like you?! How about it?

**PP**

No. Absolutely not. I can't. I've got to... errr... feed the cat.

**Tom**

I'll feed your cat. Go on. Can't you see he needs your help!

**PP**

I get seasick...

**Phil**

Rubbish! I remember when you went sailing with your Dad – you were always fine.

**PP**

That was different. We were sailing on a lake.

**Phil**

Well, **you know about sails and rope and anchors** – you'd be great. Besides, if you come with me you can have a share of the money.

**Tom**

If you get home in 80 days!

**Phil**

*I'm pleased to report that Pete is joining me. I'm so pleased I have someone to 'show me the ropes', as it were – in other words, show me what to do. **He's a good friend, a loyal assistant and he goes everywhere with me so I'm giving him the nickname 'Passepartout'**, just like in the original book, *Around the World in Eighty Days* – I hope he likes it!*

**Phil**

*We've set sail. Our adventure has begun. Let me describe the yacht to you. **It is 12 metres long. It has a huge mast, with the mainsail attached. There is an engine as well** just in case there's no wind. **The wooden deck has seating at the stern – that's the back.** There are some steps down to the galley – that's the kitchen – and there are two berths or beds for us to sleep in. I can't believe we're going to live in this tiny space for 80 days!*

**PP**

Phil, we've got the wind in our sails, **we're making good progress**. I can't even see land any more.

**Phil**

Yes. Thanks to you, it's plain sailing! So, **what does this rope do?**

**PP**

**It moves the jib** – the sail at the front.

**Phil**

And this one?

**PP**

**That moves the boom from side to side.** No, no. But don't pull it until...

**Phil**

Ouch! That hurt.

**Phil**

*Day 5 and I'm learning how to sail but my best skills are in the galley, making tea. The weather is good but we seem to have a problem with the yacht...*

**Phil**

Passepartout, is it me or **is it getting a bit wet** down in the galley?

**PP**

Let me have a look. Oh dear! **There's water all over the floor.** I think **the boat is leaking.**

**Phil**

What? What are we going to do?

**PP**

Drown!

**Phil**

What? Really? I'm going to get on the radio and call for help... Mayday! Mayday! Oh no. **The radio isn't working.** We're in big trouble!

**PP**

Be quiet. Calm down Phil. **The radio isn't turned on** – and we don't need to abandon ship just yet. I need to know where this water is coming from. It's only a slow leak but I think we need to fix it quickly. We need to head for dry land.

**Phil**

*According to the map the nearest land is some islands at 16 degrees north, 24 degrees west. Do you know where that is? Let's hope we get there before we sink.*

**Vocabulary****seasick**

feeling ill, vomiting or feeling you are going to vomit or be sick because of the movement of the ship or boat you are travelling in

**stern**

the back end of a ship or boat

**galley**

the kitchen in a ship, boat or plane

**berths**

beds in a ship, boat or train

**plain sailing**

an expression that means a job or task is going well, easily, without problems