
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

News Review

Cancer survivor swims Channel four times non-stop



The story

An American swimmer has become the first person to cross the Channel between France and England a record four times non-stop. Sarah Thomas, who's 37 and recently had cancer treatment, took 54 hours to finish her epic swim of about 200km. She told the BBC it was extremely tough with the current pushing her off course and she'd been stung by a jellyfish. She said the moment she finished was quite surreal.

Vocabulary

non-stop

without stopping

- As the children played, the school was filled with non-stop laughter.
- Can we order takeaway? Work was non-stop today and I'm tired.

feat

achievement that requires great skill

- I've always admired single parents. Working and raising a child is an impressive feat.
- The Eiffel Tower is considered by many to be quite a feat of engineering.

triumph

significant success

- Winning gold has been the triumph of my life, said the retired Olympic athlete.
- The book follows a group of refugees' triumph over adversity.

Language challenge

What do jellyfish, bees and scorpions all do?

- a) bite
- b) scratch
- c) sting

Answer:

- c) sting