Is sailing around the world a good idea?

Michaels’ family have decided to sail around the world, following the redundancy of both parents. Some would consider this to be an impetuous decision while others believe this to be a once in a lifetime opportunity. So, should the family leave their home behind, buy a yacht with their redundancy money and circumnavigate the world?

Firstly, some people argue that this experience could greatly benefit Michael’s education as there will be opportunities to learn new languages. Furthermore, it has been suggested that Michael will gain first-hand knowledge of different cultures and religions throughout the many countries he might visit. Therefore, after the trip, his knowledge of world geography will be of a very high standard. Also, some say that this trip may relieve the stress that the family are currently under because they won’t have to think about work and finding a new job for at least six months.

However, some people acknowledge that travelling around the world on the Peggy Sue could be dangerous for these amateur sailors because the family (even though they have received six months of training) have only ever sailed on lakes or reservoirs. Oceans are well known for changeable weather patterns plus, during storms, waves have been known to reach heights of up to 30 metres. What if a wave consumed the yacht and dragged it under? Furthermore, some believe that allowing children and animals on board a ship to be a ridiculous idea proposing that they may act irresponsibly and forget necessary safety precautions such as wearing their safety harness. This could result in loss of life! Additionally, someone in the family might become ill while they are in the middle of the ocean. As there would be no means of immediate help, then surely they could become seriously ill or even die?

To conclude, while many people claim that Michael’s family should sail around the world, largely due to the fact that they will learn copious amounts from their visits to all the different countries they plan to visit, others disagree entirely believing that the voyage will be too dangerous and could result in illness or even death. However, Michael’s parents are currently under considerable stress so the possibility of spending six months aboard a yacht may be a way of relaxing, de-stressing and giving time to think about the future ahead.