

## Unit 1: Taking Action

### Essential Question:

---

Cover Design and Annotations by:

---

**Directions:**

1. Review the unit opening page, and write the unit's essential question on the first line above.
2. Design a look for this cover using colors, images, shapes and other elements that matches one or more of the unit readings. Don't forget to put your name on the second line above.
3. Use the "Taking Notes" pages to annotate each story in the unit. Be sure to fill in all the sections with sufficient details.
4. Complete the response log boxes for each story with at least two sentences of explanation.
5. Use your packet to study for upcoming reading checks, quizzes, and tests.
6. Submit all pages of your work in Archie once all readings are finished.

# TAKING NOTES

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Topic

“Rogue Wave” by Theodore Taylor

Main Points (bullet points):

Author Info.:

- Author Theodore Taylor (1921–2006) wrote many stories about self-reliant characters who face great challenges.
- His best-known book, The Cay, depicts the struggles and revelations of a boy shipwrecked during World War II.

Setting: “fifteen miles off desolate Cabo Colnett, south of Ensenada” p.4  
in the path of a rogue wave on a ship called “Old Sea Dog” p.2

Exposition- Rogue waves are very dangerous, this one is 48 ft. tall and has “already killed thirteen people” (p.1)

Inciting Incident- The rogue wave hits the Old Sea Dog and flips it over (p. 9)

Rising Action- Scoot is knocked unconscious and trapped in the galley while Sully is talked in the sail outside the ship. Later Sully gets free but he cannot free Scoot because the cabin doors are jammed. (p.10-13) Sully keeps trying to dive down and open the doors, but fails every time. While Sully imagines the worst case scenario, Scoot begins to wake up and realizes where she is (p. 26) The two try to communicate by tapping on the hull of the ship but eventually realize that Scoot’s only chance is to save herself. (p.47) While Sully tries to communicate telepathically how Scoot can get out, Scoot realizes the skylight is her best chance of escape. (p.48) She uses an emergency flashlight and her own strength in swimming to find the skylight (p.54-61)

Crisis/Climax- After 6 attempts, Scoot gets the window open and frees herself from the galley of the ship (p.62)

Falling Action- The two spend the night on the hull of the ship until the Red Rooster’s captain, Mark Stevens rescues them (p.64-67)

Resolution- The Old Sea Dog finally sinks into the sea completely not long after the siblings are rescued (p. 69)

Direct Quotes, key facts,

figures, evidence or statistics

Genre: Short Story

Literary Elements:

SUSPENSE- “It was already too late to shout a warning to Scoot so she could escape from the cabin; too late to do anything except hang on to the wheel with both hands; too late even to pray.” (p.9) stops the action and shows how dangerous things are before telling us the results

FORESHADOWING- First paragraph details about the wave hint that it will be important to the main conflict of the story (human vs. nature)

INFERENCES I had to make:

- The main conflict of the story will be between people and nature (person vs. greater power), specifically the rogue ocean wave
- Sully cares a lot about his sister and does not give up easily
- Scoot and Sully both know how to push aside their fears and stick to a plan

Characters:

Melissa “Scoot” Atkins- 14 years old, pretty, dark hair, less than 5 ft tall, athletic, younger sister  
Sullivan “Sully” Atkins- 19 years old, Older brother, good teacher, skilled sailor

KEY WORDS

**Adventure**  
**Sailboat**  
**Near-Death Experience**  
**Survival Skills**  
**Natural Disaster**  
**Escape**  
**Hope/Despair**  
**Self-reliance**  
**Planning**  
**Persistence**

Questions you have

**In the future, would these characters ever want to go sailing again or not?**

**How much would it cost to replace the Old Sea Dog?**

# TAKING NOTES

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Topic \_\_\_\_\_

Main Points (bullet points):

Direct Quotes, key facts,  
figures, evidence or statistics

KEY WORDS

Questions you have



# TAKING NOTES

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Topic \_\_\_\_\_

Main Points (bullet points):

Direct Quotes, key facts,  
figures, evidence or statistics

KEY WORDS

Questions you have

# TAKING NOTES

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Topic \_\_\_\_\_

Main Points (bullet points):

Direct Quotes, key facts,  
figures, evidence or statistics

KEY WORDS

Questions you have



# TAKING NOTES

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Topic \_\_\_\_\_

Main Points (bullet points):

Direct Quotes, key facts,  
figures, evidence or statistics

KEY WORDS

Questions you have



# TAKING NOTES

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Topic \_\_\_\_\_

Main Points (bullet points):

Direct Quotes, key facts,  
figures, evidence or statistics

Questions you have

KEY WORDS

# UNIT 1

## RESPONSE LOG

Use this Response Log to record your ideas about how each of the texts in Unit 1 relates to or comments on the **Essential Question**.

**?** **Essential Question:**  
What helps people rise up to face difficulties?

Rogue Wave	
The Flight of Icarus	
Icarus’s Flight	
Women in Aviation	
Thank You, M’am	
A Police Stop Changed This Teenager’s Life	