Excerpt from *Swimming to Antarctica* by Lynne Cox

**ELAGSE9-10RL3:** Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.

**Text Dependent Questions**

1. Before attempting to swim a mile in the frigid waters of Antarctica, Lynne Cox completes a test swim. After the test swim, she has mixed feelings: confidence and fear.

   a. List 2 details that show her confidence (p. 62).
      
      • ___________________________________________________
      • ___________________________________________________

   b. List 2 details that show her fear (p. 63).
      
      • ___________________________________________________
      • ___________________________________________________

2. List 3 ways Cox prepares for her mile swim (other than the test swim). What is her motivation for each?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preparation</th>
<th>Motivation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
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<td>b.</td>
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<td>c.</td>
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3. What does Dr. Block do that gives Cox “the creeps”? (p. 64) Why does she react that way?

4. Despite her fears, why does Cox still attempt to swim the first Antarctic mile? (p. 64)

5. What physical challenge causes Cox to struggle at the start of her swim (actions)?
6. How does Cox’s perspective on her swim change as she nears the shore? Why? Explain. (p. 72)

Essay
After reading "Contents of the Dead Man's Pocket" and "Swimming to Antarctica," what do you think drives people to take on and survive intense physical activities? Use at least two examples of textual evidence from both texts.