

## Example 2

# Amazing Drifting Bottles

(seventh grade)

When I first started reading *The Million Dollar Note* by Robert Kraske, I thought that I had picked a boring book, but now that I have finished reading it, I feel differently. First, the book tells many exciting tales of how ordinary people have changed their lives by finding a bottle on the beach with a message tucked neatly inside and a cork stuck on the top. One tale, for example, occurred on March 16, 1949, when Jack Worm found a bottle with a will inside. The will was written by Daisy Alexander, the daughter of Isaac Singer, a famous sewing machine millionaire. She left the finder of the bottle twelve million dollars, half of her estate. The book also tells of many other uses made by bottle messages. Some of the messages were used to spread the gospel, to explain a disaster at sea, to solve a crime, or to predict oil spills. In addition, *The Million Dollar Note* tells how the ocean currents were charted by the use of bottle messages. Two thousand years ago, a Greek oceanographer named Theophratus believed that the Mediterranean Sea received most of its water from the Atlantic Ocean. He dropped bottles into the Strait of Gibraltar to prove his theory. I'm glad that I didn't give up on this book and would recommend it to you if you are looking for interesting reading.

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