



Upper KS1/Lower KS2 (SATS style) Reading Comprehension Booklet 10



Name.....

Useful words

crew

gangplank

pitching

lurch

Jim and Captain Blackpatch



It was Jim's first day aboard The Jolly Pipsqueak. Since they had left port it had been Jim's job to take water to the other pirates as they did their jobs around the ship. But Jim was feeling sick, sea sick.

Questions

1 What is Jim's job?

Tick one.

cleaning the deck

taking drinks to the pirates

cooking supper

singing songs

2 What is the name of the ship Jim is on?

Jim had given drinks to all the pirates when he remembered he hadn't given a drink to Captain Blackpatch. Captain Blackpatch was very frightening. He was always shouting at the crew and if anyone did anything wrong he would kick them with his wooden leg! Jim was terrified about giving him his drink.

3 Which of his limbs had Captain Blackpatch lost?

4 When the Captain was angry with his crew, what did he do?

Tick one.

hit them with a sword

kick them with his wooden leg

throw water at them

make them walk the gangplank

Captain Blackpatch was short and he had a stubbly, black beard which was always full of the porridge he had eaten for breakfast. He only had two teeth and they were both black and chipped. Right on the end of his nose he had a huge, red spot from which a tuft of hair grew. In an old sea battle, he had lost his left eye so he now had a black patch covering it.

5 How many teeth did Captain Blackpatch have?

6 Why did the Captain wear an eye patch?

Jim carefully got a bucket of water out of the barrel, making sure it didn't have too many bits floating about in it. He got a tin cup and made sure it was as clean as it could be. He made his way, as carefully as he could, up the steps to where the fearsome Captain was steering the ship. It wasn't easy as the ship was tossing and pitching on the rough sea.

Poor Jim was feeling more and more seasick.

7 What was Captain Blackpatch doing?

Tick one.

Steering the ship

Shouting at the crew

Counting his treasure

Sharpening his sword

8 Why was it difficult to climb the steps up to the Captain?

Jim eventually managed to climb the steep steps with his bucket of water. He approached the scary Captain, "Would you like some water, Sir?" asked Jim bravely.

"Aye lad, now!" shouted the gruff Captain. Jim was shaking nervously as he handed the Captain his tin cup of water. Just then a sudden gust of wind caused the ship to lurch forward, poor Jim started to topple, he saved himself but, disaster, he emptied the whole bucket of water over the Captain!

9 Jim asked Captain Blackpatch if...

Tick one.

he could have a rest

he was all right

he wanted something to eat.

he wanted some water

10

What made the ship suddenly lurch forward?

11

What did Jim spill over Captain Blackpatch?

12

What do you think might have happened next in the story?

Useful words

Caribbean

naval

Lieutenant

Mediterranean

Pirates



Pirates are groups of sailors who try to steal from other ships. For many hundreds of years pirates have done this right up to today.

Most of our stories about pirates come from about 300 years ago when pirate ships attacked other ships in the Caribbean Sea off the South East coast of America.

13 Where did pirates attack other ships 300 years ago?

Tick one.

The Caribbean Sea

The Mediterranean Sea.

The North Sea

The Irish sea

14 What do pirates try and do?

The most famous pirate was probably Blackbeard. His real name was Edward Teach. In 1718 he died in a fight with a naval officer called Lieutenant Maynard. He had a huge black beard which made him look very frightening

15 What was Blackbeard's real name?

16 How did Blackbeard die?

Tick **one**.

he drowned

he fell off his ship

in a fight

he caught a bad cold

The Jolly Roger

Ships usually have a flag. It was traditional for pirate ships to fly a Jolly Roger flag. This is sometimes known as a 'Skull and Crossbones'. It had a picture of a skull with two crossed bones underneath. It was meant to scare other ships and sailors. The English pirate Jack Rackham replaced the bones on his flag with crossed swords.



17

What did Jack Rackham have on his flag instead of bones?

Tick one.

fish

flags

swords

sticks

18

What is the pirate's flag known as?

Women Pirates

Women weren't allowed on pirate ships so when Mary Read and Anne Bonny wanted to join Jack Rackham's ship they had to dress up as men. When their ship was captured in 1720 they were the only two members of the crew who were brave enough to fight.

19

Who dressed up as men to get on Jack Rackham's ship?

20

Why did they do this?

Tick **one**.

to look smart

women were not allowed on
pirate ships

all their other clothes
were dirty

they did not like wearing
dresses



Grandad is a Pirate



My Grandad was a pirate
At least that's what he said
But I think he's telling porky pies
'Cause he's always in his bed



He says it was a while ago
Long before TV
That he was a blood thirsty pirate
Sailing the Seven Seas



His ship was the Saucy Suzie
With guns thirty and three
And his crew were all quite nasty
Scaring both you and me



The ship's cat was a panther
Black as the darkest night
And the parrot was called Archie
Whose screech was out of sight



My Grandad was a pirate
Who sailed the deepest sea
But now he's just my Grandad
Who's as friendly as can be



21

What do you think the words "poriky pies" is supposed to mean?

Tick **one**.

cries

fries

lies

flies

22

What do you think the words "blood thirsty" means in this poem?

23

How many guns were on the Grandad's ship?
