

# A Pirate's Life For Me

4 Thursday 6th June, 1708

15 Today has been a rough day at sea. The waves have  
25 been as tall as mountains and have been crashing onto  
35 the deck as loud as thunder. The harsh winds have  
45 torn down the Jolly Roger (our pirate flag) and have  
54 ripped the sails. The rigger has spent all afternoon  
63 repairing the damage and the cabin boys have been  
74 fixing the masts so that they will last the night. The  
82 quartermaster told me today that our supplies are  
93 running low. We are close to running out of food and  
103 we are starting to get scurvy because we have not  
113 had enough vitamins. We hope that our bad luck will  
115 change soon.

118 Over and out,  
120 Captain Longworth.



# Quick Questions



1. What do you think might happen to the pirates next?

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2. How is Captain Longworth feeling about being on the pirate ship? Give a reason.

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3. What is the Jolly Roger?

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4. Find and copy a word from the text which means the same as 'ripped'.

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115 change soon.

118 Over and out,

120 Captain Longworth.



# Answers



1. What do you think might happen to the pirates next?

**Accept any sensible prediction linked to the information in the text, e.g. I think that the weather might still be bad and the pirates might start to become seasick.**



2. How is Captain Longworth feeling about being on the pirate ship? Give a reason.

**Accept any sensible inference linked to the text, e.g. Pirate Longworth is feeling downhearted because the weather has been bad and the food is running out.**



3. What is the Jolly Roger?  
**the pirate flag**



4. Find and copy a word from the text which means the same as 'ripped'.

**torn**

# Female Pirates

7 Many years ago, women were not allowed  
16 on ships as they were considered to bring bad  
25 luck and a stormy night of sailing. However, some  
33 women went against these rules and wanted to  
40 become pirates. Two famous female pirates were  
48 called Anne Bonny and Mary Read. These two  
57 women dressed up as men and fought as pirates  
64 fiercely and fearlessly. In November 1720, the  
73 ship that Anne and Mary were on was captured  
80 by a pirate hunter called Captain Jonathan  
88 Barnet. These two women were the only people  
96 onboard who were brave enough to fight against  
103 the enemy although, sadly, they were outnumbered  
109 and did not win the battle.



# Quick Questions



1. What was the name of the pirate hunter who captured the ship that Anne and Mary were on?

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2. Why did Anne and Mary dress up as men?

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3. Find and copy two adverbs to describe how Anne and Mary fought.

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4. Number these facts from 1 to 3 to show the order they appear in the text.

- The ship Anne and Mary was on was captured.
- Anne and Mary dressed as men.
- Women were not allowed onboard ships.

## Female Pirates

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16 on ships as they were considered to bring bad  
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103 the enemy although, sadly, they were outnumbered  
109 and did not win the battle.



## Answers



1. What was the name of the pirate hunter who captured the ship that Anne and Mary were on?  
**Captain Jonathan Barnet.**



2. Why did Anne and Mary dress up as men?  
**Accept any sensible answer linked to the text, e.g. Anne and Mary dressed as men so that they could become pirates as they knew that women were not allowed.**



3. Find and copy two adverbs to describe how Anne and Mary fought.  
**fiercely and fearlessly**



4. Number these facts from 1 to 3 to show the order they appear in the text.

**3** The ship Anne and Mary was on was captured.

**2** Anne and Mary dressed as men.

**1** Women were not allowed onboard ships.

# How to Make a Pirate Stew

10 On a misty, stormy morning, there is nothing better to  
20 warm your bones than a hearty bowl of pirate stew.

23 You will need:

29 • Fifteen shells from slimy sea snails

35 • A big glug of salty seawater

40 • One bunch of slippery seaweed

43 • Two shark's eyeballs

49 • The front tooth of an octopus

53 • A large, metal pot

61 • A grubby, wooden leg to stir it with

64 What to do:

73 1) Throw all of the nasty supplies into the pot.

84 2) Place the pot onto a raging fire and leave it to

95 bubble and boil for three and a half days. Stir it

105 with a wooden leg to get rid of any lumps.

117 3) Slop it into bowls and try your best not to be seasick.



1. Number these instructions from 1 to 3 to show the order they must happen in.

Stir the mixture with a wooden leg.

Throw the supplies into a pot.

Put the stew into bowls.



2. Which two adjectives has the author used to describe what a morning can be like?

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\_\_\_\_\_



3. Why do you think the author says, 'Try not to be seasick.' as an instruction?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



4. How many shells from sea snails do you need for the recipe?

\_\_\_\_\_



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1. Number these instructions from 1 to 3 to show the order they must happen in.

2 Stir the mixture with a wooden leg.

1 Throw the supplies into a pot.

3 Put the stew into bowls.



2. Which two adjectives has the author used to describe what a morning can be like?

**misty and stormy**



3. Why do you think the author says, 'Try not to be seasick.' as an instruction?

**Accept any sensible justification linked to the fact that the stew is disgusting, e.g. because the pirate stew is horrible and anyone who eats it might feel sick.**



4. How many shells from sea snails do you need for the recipe?

**fifteen**

# Stowaway Stefan

8 The weather was terrible. I needed somewhere to  
16 hide; anywhere would do. I crawled inside a  
24 wooden crate, filled with straw and potatoes. The  
33 shelter was much needed – I was soaked to the  
42 skin and beginning to shiver. The next thing I  
50 knew, the crate lifted into the air, swaying  
59 backwards and forwards like a child on a swing.  
68 The box dropped to the ground with a thump  
80 and, as it did, the lid flew open. I plucked up the  
92 courage to peer over the edge of the box. I was in  
102 the bowels of a mighty pirate ship and an ugly  
108 face was looking back at me.



# Quick Questions



1. What do you think might happen to Stefan next?

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2. How might Stefan have been feeling at the start of the story? Give evidence from the text.

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3. What was in the crate that Stefan hid in?

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4. *'I was soaked to the skin...'*  
What does this phrase mean?

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92 courage to peer over the edge of the box. I was in  
102 the bowels of a mighty pirate ship and an ugly  
108 face was looking back at me.



# Answers



1. What do you think might happen to Stefan next?  
**Accept any sensible answer linked to the text, e.g. I think that Stefan will have to work onboard the pirate ship.**



2. How might Stefan have been feeling at the start of the story? Give evidence from the text.  
**Accept any sensible inference linked to the text, e.g. Stefan would have been unhappy and cold because it says he was starting to shiver.**



3. What was in the crate that Stefan hid in?  
**potatoes and straw**



4. *'I was soaked to the skin...'*  
What does this phrase mean?  
**Accept any answer relating to the meaning of the sentence being that Stefan was wet through and his clothes were saturated.**