

Unit 1: Treasure Below!

CHAPTER 1

Sea Legs

"Ahoy there, Flynn! Still feeling a little green?" called Uncle Earl, from the top deck of the boat. "Don't worry, we're almost at the dive site. You should have your sea legs by then."

"It's not my sea legs I'm waiting for. It's my sea stomach," groaned Flynn, as he leaned over the railing.

"You mean your sea ears."

Flynn turned and saw his friend, Mia, holding out a cup.



"If you had worn patches, you'd feel fine. Look at me. I feel great." Mia shone a wide smile and held out her arm. Mia seemed to know how to prepare for any situation.

"What are Uncle Earl and Mel doing?" Flynn asked. Since boarding the boat, Flynn had hardly seen his uncle.

"Oh, they're busy talking with the crew about the wreck and looking over charts, maps and stuff," answered Mia. "I had no idea that your uncle knew so much about Spanish shipwrecks, ocean currents and diving."

"Seasickness is actually caused by an imbalance in your inner ear, Flynn. Here, take a sip of this. It'll settle your stomach."

Flynn gingerly took the cup. Everything he ate or drank sent his stomach churning.

"Mel told me to give it to you, and you know ship rules — when at sea, follow the captain's orders!"

Flynn rubbed his arm. He was still recovering from the enormous bear hug of a greeting Mel had given him. "Ha! Now this drink's going to finish me off!" Flynn screwed up his face at the bitter taste.



Flynn was feeling a little better. "Hey Mia! What's the name of the shipwreck we're looking for?"

"*The Atocha*. It's a Spanish galleon that sank, loaded with treasure, about 380 years ago. Mel's already found some of the treasure, but he can't find the hull of the ship. It's supposed to be full of gold, silver and gemstones. He calls it the mother lode." Mia let out a laugh. "So I guess we're sailing the high seas after the mother lode of *The Atocha*. Can you believe it!"

"Wicked!" Flynn said. "Don't say 'high seas', though — it makes me feel kind of queasy."

Just then Mel called to them from the ship's bridge. "Can you guys make your way to the gear deck? One of the crew will fit you out with dive suits."





Inbox (2375 messages, 8 unread)

Delete Junk Reply Reply All Forward New Get Mail Address Add Address Search

From	Subject	Date Received
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TO: Mia
FROM: Earl
SUBJECT: Atocha

Here's some information about the ship we're looking for. She was called *Nuestra Señora de Atocha* (Our Lady of Atocha in Spanish), or just *Atocha* for short. She was part of a fleet of Spanish ships heading home from South America in 1622. We think she carried silver from Peru and Mexico, pearls from Venezuela, and gold and emeralds from Colombia.

But a hurricane hit the fleet near Florida and the *Atocha* sank in about 65 feet of water. Only five people survived.

See you and Flynn on the dock at 7 am. Don't forget your wet weather gear — it looks like there is a storm coming in!

Earl



In the texts

1 *Sea Legs* on page 2 is a part of a narrative. When you see *Chapter 1* on the page, what do you expect to learn about the story?

2 How does the writer show direct speech?

3 Why are there single quotation marks when Flynn says “*Don’t say ‘high seas’, though — it makes me feel kind of queasy.*”?

4 Read the email on page 3.

a Mark the form of communication you think is most like email.

telegram

smoke signal

letter

Morse code

phone call

television

b What do you think are the best features of email?

c Why would Earl be sending information to Mia?

5 Explain what these features on the email screen are used for.

a Forward

b Search

c Drafts

6 Underline the sentence in the email that suggests what will happen to Mia, Flynn and the ship’s crew. ☆ Done

7 Look at the cartoon pictures on page 3.

Number them in the order of the events they are describing. ☆ Done



Read and learn

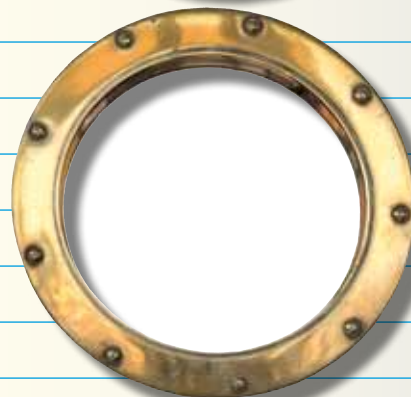
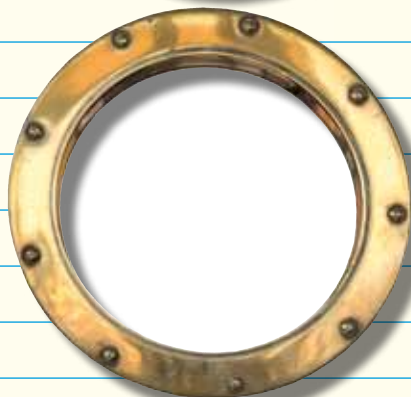
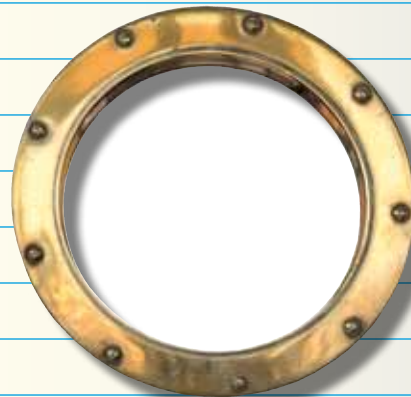
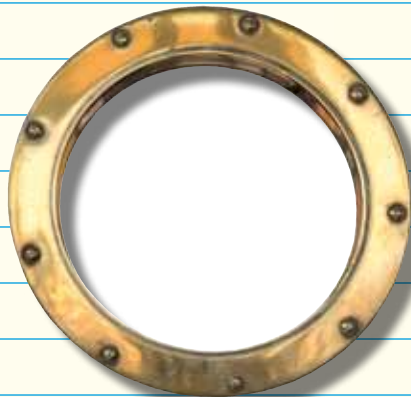
1 Read the email on page 3.



- a On the map, label Florida, USA, Mexico, Venezuela and Colombia.
 - b Where was the *Atocha*'s home?
 - c Draw an arrow to show the direction the *Atocha* was heading to go home.
 - d Mark a cross where you think the *Atocha* sank.
- 2 **Where do you think *Sea Legs* is taking place?** Use an atlas to find a port from which Mel's boat may have sailed. ☆ Done
- 3 **In *Sea Legs*, how long ago did the *Atocha* sink?**
- 4 **What is wrong with Flynn?**
- 5 **Why is there a patch on Mia's arm?**
- 6 **According to Mia, what causes seasickness?**
- 7 **The *Atocha* sank a long time ago.** Why would it be hard to find it and its treasure?



- 8** Draw the faces of the four main characters from *Sea Legs*. Label them with their names and roles in the story. Use terms such as *friend of*, *captain*, *uncle of* etc.



- 9** Write definitions for these words and terms.

- a** sea legs:
- b** gingerly:
- c** churning:
- d** galleon:
- e** high seas:
- f** mother lode:
- g** queasy:
- h** ship's bridge:

- 10** Rewrite these sentences in your own words.

- a** Now this drink's going to finish me off!

- b** Ahoy there, Flynn! Still feeling a little green?





A narrative tells a story that entertains, guides or teaches. It has a beginning, middle and end. It has:

- a problem
- one or more complications
- a resolution to the problem, either good (happy ending) or bad (sad ending).

Your turn

I Write a narrative about looking for lost treasure.

Your narrative must be connected in some way to the *Sea Legs* story on page 2. It could include the events in the cartoon pictures on page 3. Write your story in the first person from the point of view of the main character. Let your reader know what this character is feeling, not just what he or she is doing. Before you begin writing, plan the:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> title | <input type="checkbox"/> setting | <input type="checkbox"/> characters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> plot | <input type="checkbox"/> complication | <input type="checkbox"/> resolution |



Nouns and pronouns

Nouns are the names of people, places or things. Proper nouns name particular people, places or things, eg *Mel*, *Florida*. They always begin with a capital letter.

1 Write proper nouns for these nouns from *Sea Legs* on page 2.

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| a boy | c girl | e ship's captain |
| b ship | d uncle | f chapter title |

2 Write proper nouns for these nouns from the email on page 3.

- a** ship's name in Spanish
- b** an American state
- c** three countries
- d** person who wrote the email

3 Singular nouns name single things, eg *man*, *boat*, *sea*.

Plural nouns name more than one thing, eg *men*, *boats*, *countries*.

- a** Circle 10 singular nouns on page 2. ☆ Done
- b** Circle 10 plural nouns on pages 2 and 3. ☆ Done

4 There are several ways to make plural nouns, apart from just adding *s*.

- Add *es*, eg *glasses*, *ditches*, *bushes*, *boxes*.
- Change the *y* to *i* and add *es* (when *y* comes after a consonant), eg *libraries*, *flies*.
- Change the *f* to *v* and add *es*, eg *leaves*, *halves*.
- Add *es* when the word ends in *o*, eg *buffaloes*.
- Change the word completely, eg *men*, *women*, *oxen*.

Write the plurals of these nouns.

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| a letter | i fox |
| b sheaf | j match |
| c wharf | k study |
| d volcano | l scarf |
| e bully | m mouse |
| f princess | n goose |
| g city | o wife |
| h tomato | p fleet |



5 Singular nouns need a singular verb, eg *the ship was smashed*. Plural nouns need a plural verb, eg *the ships were smashed*. Cross out the incorrect verbs.

- a** His dive suit ~~was~~ ~~were~~ too small.
- b** The guys ~~is~~ ~~are~~ climbing into their suits.
- c** I guess we ~~is~~ ~~are~~ lucky to be here.
- d** The ships ~~has~~ ~~have~~ three masts.

6 Collective nouns are the names of groups of people or things, eg *team, flock*.

Write the collective nouns from page 2.

- a** a group of ships
- b** a group of sailors

7 Abstract nouns name things you can't see, such as thoughts and feelings, eg *honesty*.

Draw lines to match the abstract nouns with their definitions.

- a** love worry about the future
- b** fear feeling sick in the stomach
- c** anxiety a feeling of great affection
- d** seasickness alarm or panic

8 Pronouns stand in place of nouns, eg:

Nuestra Senora de Atocha belonged to Spain. It was a treasure ship. Mel stood at the wheel of his own ship. He was tired but happy.

Noun	Pronoun that takes the noun's place
Nuestra Senora de Atocha	It
Mel	He

Write pronouns that could be used in place of these nouns.

- a** Flynn
- d** Flynn and Mia
- b** the sea
- e** two hurricanes
- c** dive suit
- f** gold

9 Underline the pronouns in the paragraph that begins *The Atocha ...* on page 2.

Mark the boxes when you have found pronouns for Atocha , Mel , Mia and everyone .