READING A2-06

Pirates: Legends of the Sea

Piratas: leyendas de los mares

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A2 · Study path 2.2 · from Reader's Manual A2

Before you read

Name a pirate from a book, a film or a game.
Nombra a un pirata de un libro, una película o un videojuego.

Were real pirates heroes or criminals? What do you think?
¿Los piratas de verdad eran héroes o criminales? ¿Tú qué piensas?

READING A2-06 · 374 WORDS

Pirates: Legends of the Sea

Pirates are famous for their adventures on the sea. They sailed across the oceans, looking for treasure and attacking ships. Some pirates were real, and others are from stories and movies. People have always been fascinated by their dangerous and exciting lives.

Real pirates lived hundreds of years ago. The most famous time for pirates was the Golden Age of Piracy, from the 1600s to the 1700s. Many pirates sailed in the Caribbean Sea, attacking Spanish, English, and French ships. They stole gold, silver, and other valuable things. Some of the most famous real pirates were Blackbeard, Anne Bonny, and Captain Kidd. Blackbeard was known for his long black beard and scary appearance. Anne Bonny was a woman pirate who fought just like the men.

Pirates had their own rules and way of life. They lived on ships and shared the treasure they stole. Many pirates had a pirate flag, called the Jolly Roger. It was usually black with a white skull and crossbones. When other ships saw this flag, they knew the pirates were coming.

Many books and movies tell stories about pirates. One of the most famous pirate books is Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson. It tells the story of a boy named Jim Hawkins who finds a treasure map and meets pirates. Another famous pirate from fiction is Captain Jack Sparrow from the movie series Pirates of the Caribbean. He is a funny and clever pirate who always finds a way to escape danger.

Not all pirate stories are true. Some myths say that pirates made people walk the plank, but historians are not sure if this really happened. However, it is true that pirates sometimes buried treasure, but most of the time, they spent their gold quickly.

Today, pirates do not look like they did in the past, but piracy still exists. Some modern pirates attack ships and steal goods, especially in places like the coast of Africa. However, most people think of pirates as exciting characters from history and stories.

Pirates are still popular in books, movies, and festivals. People dress up as pirates, wear eye patches, and say famous pirate words like "Ahoy!" and "Arrr!". The stories of pirates will always be exciting and full of adventure.

Word list · Vocabulario

treasure	tesoro	**escape**	escapar, huir
attack	atacar	**walk the plank**	caminar por la tabla (hacia el mar)
fascinated	fascinado	**bury**	enterrar
steal (stole)	robar (robó)	**coast**	costa
appearance	aspecto, apariencia	**eye patch**	parche en el ojo
skull and crossbones	calavera con tibias cruzadas		

After you read

A What is the text mainly about? Choose A, B or C.

¿De qué trata principalmente el texto? Elige A, B o C.

1 The text shows that ...

A all pirate stories are true.

B pirates are part of real history and of popular stories, and some stories are myths.

C piracy ended in the 1700s.

B True or false? Circle T or F.

¿Verdadero o falso? Encierra T o F.

1 The Golden Age of Piracy was in the 1600s and 1700s. **T / F**

2 Pirates never attacked ships for treasure. **T / F**

3 Blackbeard was known for his long black beard. **T / F**

4 Anne Bonny was a famous woman pirate. **T / F**

5 The Jolly Roger was a pirate ship. **T / F**

6 Treasure Island is a book about pirates. **T / F**

7 Captain Jack Sparrow is a real pirate from history. **T / F**

8 Modern piracy still exists today. **T / F**

C Answer the questions.

Responde las preguntas.

1 What was the Golden Age of Piracy?

2 Where did many pirates sail during the Golden Age?

3 Name one famous real pirate.

4 What was the Jolly Roger?

5 What is Treasure Island about?

6 Who is Captain Jack Sparrow?

7 Did pirates really bury treasure?

8 Where can modern piracy be found today?

D Fill in the gaps.

Completa las palabras que faltan.

1 Pirates sailed the _____ looking for treasure.
2 The most famous time for pirates was the _____ Age of Piracy.
3 Blackbeard had a long black _____.
4 Anne Bonny was a famous _____ pirate.
5 The pirate flag was called the _____ Roger.
6 Treasure Island is a book by Robert Louis _____.
7 Captain Jack Sparrow is a pirate from the movie _____ of the Caribbean.
8 Some modern pirates attack _____ to steal goods.

E Real history (H), fiction (F) or myth (M)? Write H, F or M.

¿Historia real (H), ficción (F) o mito (M)? Escribe H, F o M.

1 Blackbeard _____
2 Jim Hawkins _____
3 Pirates always made prisoners walk the plank. _____
4 Anne Bonny _____

5 Captain Jack Sparrow _____

6 Modern pirates near the coast of Africa _____

F Talk about it.

Platiquen en parejas o en grupo.

- Why are pirates so popular in films although they were criminals?
- If you found a treasure, would you keep it or give it to a museum?
- Plan a pirate party: what would people wear, eat and play?