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Unit 5

#### Grade

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**Listening Comprehension** 

UNIT **2** 

## **Pirates of the Caribbean**

This passage explains how pirates such as Blackbeard gained notoriety for pirating throughout the Caribbean and parts of North America, and the steps taken by the Governor of Virginia to end piracy.



000

Read the questions in this unit before listening. Take notes as you listen. You may read the listening script on page 226 if needed.

Keywords	Notes
buccaneer	
legendary	
ruthlessness	
notorious	
fuse	
opponent	
reputation	
Carolina	
governor	
naval officer	
Maynard	
challenge	
inlet	
fatal	
paltry	

Section

1

A. Read the questions. Then check the correct answers.

- 1. What did Blackbeard put in his hair?
  - A) few
  - B) fuses
  - c) flames
  - D) fumes
- 2. What was easy for Blackbeard?



- ) piracy
- 3. Who was the Governor of Virginia?



- B) Edward Teach
- ) Alexander Spotswood
- Henry Morgan
- 4. How many members were there in Maynard's crew?
  - A 6
    B 16
    C 60
    D 61
- B. Listen to the questions and answer options. Then write the correct letters in the boxes.



#### C. Write "T" for the true statements and "F" for the false ones.

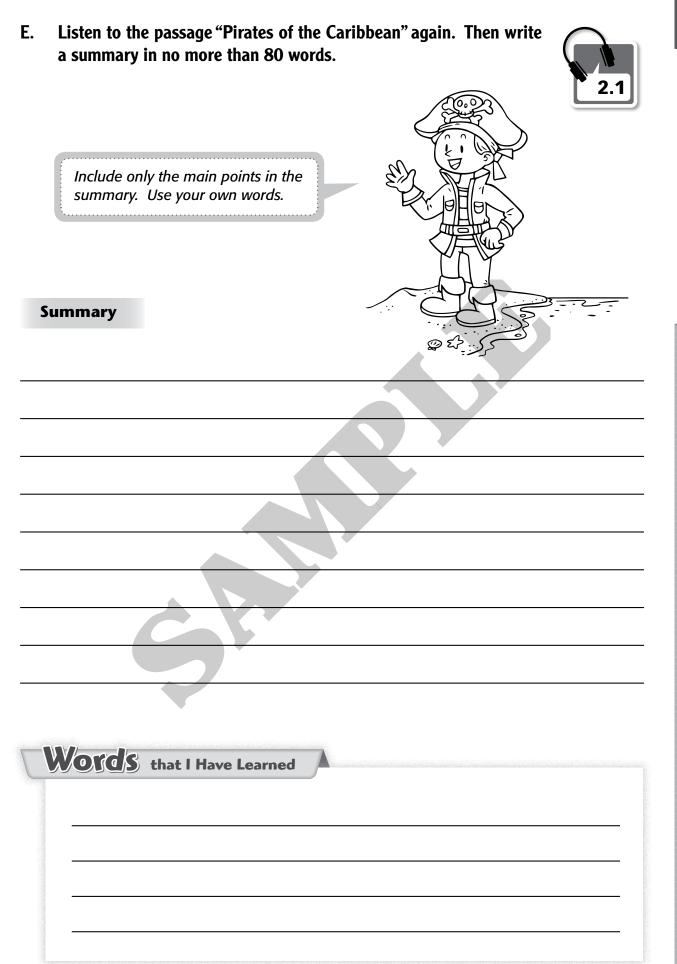
- 1. Captain Henry Morgan was a pirate.
- 2. Piracy was prevalent off the northern coast of North America.
- 3. Blackbeard was kind to his crew members.
- 4. It was expensive to do business in the Caribbean and the Carolina coast because of piracy.
- 5. The reward for capturing Blackbeard was roughly ten years' wages for a captain.
- 6. Maynard was a British naval officer.
- 7. Maynard captured Blackbeard in the end.
- 8. The governor gave Maynard a reward of  $\pounds 100$ .

#### D. Answer the questions.

1. Describe Blackbeard's physical appearance.



2. Why was the actual reward for capturing Blackbeard not worth Maynard and his crew risking their lives?



Section

1

#### **Listening Scripts**



### Pirates of the Caribbean

Pirates, like Captain Henry Morgan, were also referred to as buccaneers. They became legendary as stories about their ruthlessness and their skills at pirating spread throughout the Caribbean and to the southern coast of North America. The most notorious pirate of them all was Edward Teach, better known as Blackbeard. He was tall and muscular with a long beard braided with bright

ribbons that hung down to his chest. He was a fearful sight. When he went into battle, he would put slow burning fuses in his hair, creating a smoky haze that surrounded his head. If his opponents put up a fight, he would teach them a lesson. In one case, he cut off the nose of a Portuguese sailor; in another, he killed one of his own crew members just to remind people of how evil he was. It was acts like these that spread his reputation far and wide and made piracy easy for him.

Piracy was taking its toll on the economy of the major trading countries. Doing business in the Caribbean and the Carolina coast was becoming very expensive. The Governor of Virginia, Alexander Spotswood, put up a reward of £100 (approximately US\$160) for the capture of Blackbeard. This amount was roughly ten years' wages for a sailor at the time.

A British naval officer named Maynard took up the challenge with a crew of 60, and found Blackbeard hiding in a North Carolina inlet. The next day, Maynard attacked Blackbeard and on the second attack found himself face to face with the fearsome pirate. Maynard shot him but Blackbeard did not fall. They then fought with swords, and just as Blackbeard was about to deliver a fatal blow, one of Maynard's crew shot and killed him.

With Blackbeard's death came the end of piracy. However, the governor refused to give Maynard the reward of  $\pounds 100$ . Instead he gave him only  $\pounds 3$  (US\$5) and half of that to his crew. This paltry payment was hardly worth risking their lives.

### 2.2

- 1. What is a buccaneer?
  - A. a pirate
  - B. a captain
- 2. What was the real name of Blackbeard?
  - A. Henry Morgan
  - B. Edward Teach

- 3. What did the Governor of Virginia do to deal with piracy?
  - A. He advised traders not to travel by sea.
  - B. He put up a reward for the capture of Blackbeard.
- 4. Where was Blackbeard killed?
  - A. in North Carolina
  - B. in Virginia