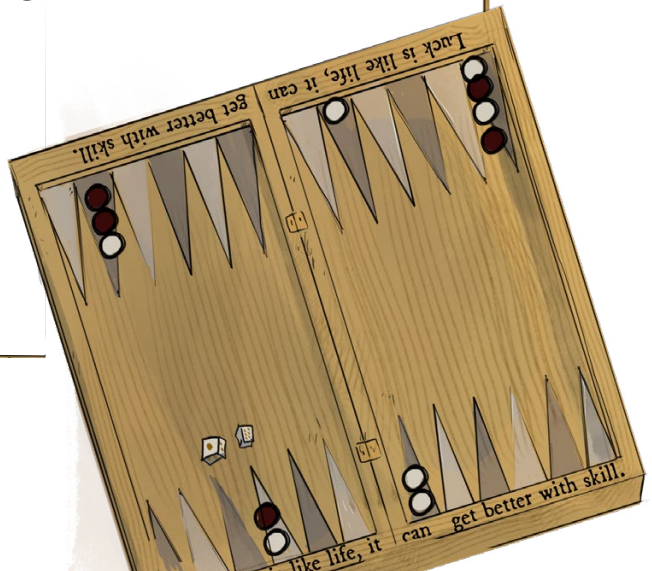


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Before you start reading, check you know the meaning of the following words.

- criminal
- goods
- illegal
- import
- government
- smuggle

SMUGGLING

WHAT IS SMUGGLING?

Smuggling is when people move goods between countries in an illegal way. They do this for two reasons.

The goods are illegal in the country the smugglers move them to.

Examples of this include drugs, animals and plants.

The smugglers don't want to pay **taxes** on the goods. If they don't pay taxes, they can sell the goods at a lower price than in the shops.

Taxes are money you pay the government when you bring goods into another country. In the UK, most imported goods have 20% tax. Another word for taxes is 'duty'.



THE HISTORY OF SMUGGLING

Taxes on luxury goods, like tea or chocolate, increased at the end of the 17th century. Later, basic goods, like salt and soap, also had high taxes. This meant that they cost more. People thought this was unfair, and they started to buy smuggled goods because they were cheaper.

In the 18th century, when *Moonfleet* is set, smuggling was very common. Groups of smugglers brought tea, tobacco and alcohol into the country illegally. They used hidden parts of the coast to bring goods from ships. In the south of England, there were many good places for this. This story is set in Dorset, where there are lots of quiet beaches and small bays perfect for smuggling. In the last 50 years, the meaning of smuggling has changed again. People smuggling is when people move across borders illegally. Criminals often take lots of money from poor immigrants hoping for a better life in Europe. They often put these people's lives in danger with difficult journeys across the sea or inside lorries. Over 7,000 people died trying to get into Europe in 2025.

Think

Why do people leave their countries?

 In groups, make a list of possible reasons.

GLOSSARY

- **bays:** areas of coast with land on three sides
- **drugs:** illegal chemicals people take to feel happy
- **immigrants:** people who move from one country to another for a better life
- **imported:** brought into another country
- **in danger:** in a bad situation
- **increased:** became higher/more
- **luxury:** expensive and beautiful but not needed
- **unfair:** not right or good

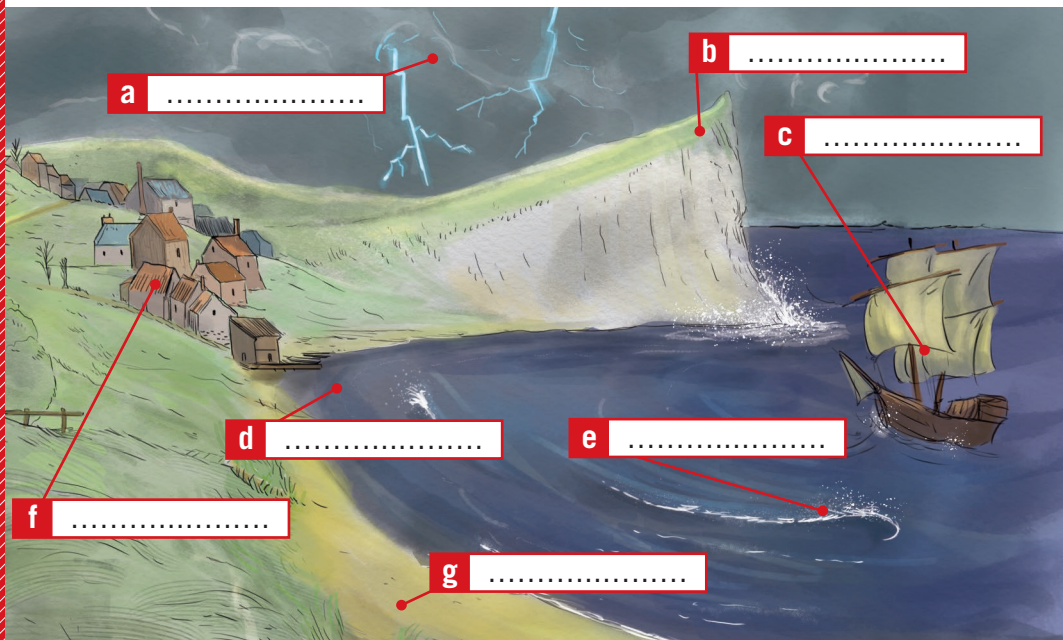




BEFORE READING

- 1 This is Moonfleet, a village on the coast of Dorset in the south of England. Label the picture with the words in the box.

bay beach cliff ship storm waves



- 2 Complete the description of Moonfleet with words from Exercise 1. Use the correct form of the words.

The (a) of Moonfleet is on the coast in a large (b) The bay is dangerous. The winds are strong, and the water is deep. (c) wreck many (d) in Moonfleet Bay. The last thing many sailors see is a (e) that we call the “Dragon’s Nose”. Why? Because it looks like a dragon’s nose.



- 3 Listen and check.



4 Match the words to their definitions.

a ☐ castle

b ☐ churchyard

c ☐ inn

d ☐ manor

e ☐ prison

f ☐ tomb

1 locked building for criminals

2 large strong building where important people lived

3 large house in the countryside

4 place for a dead body

5 area of land around a church for dead people

6 small hotel and/or pub

5 Write the words from Exercise 4 under the correct photos.



a



b



c



d



e



f

6 Imagine you are in one of the places in Exercise 5. Describe it to a partner. Can they guess which one it is?



MOONFLEET



The village of Moonfleet is on the coast, in a large bay. The bay is dangerous•. The winds are strong•, and the water is deep•. Storms wreck• many ships in Moonfleet Bay. The last thing many sailors see is a cliff that we call the “Dragon’s Nose”. Why? Because it looks like a dragon’s nose.

Moonfleet comes from “Mohune fleet•”. The Mohunes were a great family, and they owned• the village in the past. Their family shield is on the front of the church, the inn and Moonfleet Manor. It is white with a black “Y” inside it. That “Y” is part of me until I die.

My name is John Trenchard, and I was fifteen when this story begins. My father and mother were both dead•, and I lived with my mother’s sister, Aunt Jane. She gave me a home, but she didn’t love me.

That autumn, there was a big storm. The storm changed my life. It was 1757, and life was hard. Poor fishermen made money from smuggling. Moonfleet Bay was a good place for smuggling things from France.

GLOSSARY

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| • dangerous: not safe | • owned: had |
| • dead: not living | • strong: (here) very fast |
| • deep: far from the top to the bottom | • wreck: destroy |
| • fleet: number of ships that sail together | |

The day before the storm, I was helping Ratsey. He was making a gravestone• for David Block. And I was holding• a light for him. David was fifteen when he died. He was with some smugglers when Judge Maskew of Moonfleet Manor shot• him.

THINK

John and David were both fifteen. How are their lives different from fifteen-year-olds now?

WEB Find out more about the lives of teenagers in the 1700s in your country. What has changed?

Judge Maskew took a ship full of soldiers to catch the smugglers. There was a fight•. The judge shot David and killed him. He sent the other smugglers to prison in Dorchester, the nearest town.

Maskew was not from Moonfleet. He arrived with his daughter, Grace, five years earlier. He was rich, and he bought Moonfleet Manor, but he did not help the village. Grace was different from her father. Everybody liked Grace, except• me. I loved her.

‘It was a terrible thing to shoot a young boy,’ said Ratsey. ‘Now, that’s enough for today. Let’s go to the inn. Elzevir needs to see some friends.’ Elzevir Block was David’s father, and the owner of the inn. After David died, Elzevir was often sad and silent. The inn was rarely busy•, but Elzevir had enough money, and he often helped poor people. People in Moonfleet liked Elzevir Block.

GLOSSARY

- **busy:** (here) with lots of people
- **except:** but not
- **fight:** angry action between people

- **gravestone:**



- **shot:** used a gun to hurt or kill
- **was holding:** had in my hands

I felt• happy when Ratsey asked me to go to the inn. But I was worried about what my aunt would say. I was also a little afraid of Elzevir Block. He looked at us angrily• when we came in. ‘What does the boy want here?’ he asked.

‘The same as me. A warm drink for cold weather!’ said Ratsey. ‘And he is not a boy. He is the same age as your David.’

Elzevir gave us two glasses of brandy•. A big one for Ratsey and a small one for me. Then he and Ratsey sat at a table and played backgammon. Elzevir’s backgammon board was famous in the village. These words were written on it:

“Luck• is like life, it can get better with skill•.”

BACKGAMMON

WEB Backgammon is a board game. Find a picture of it online.

Have you played this game?

What is your favourite board game?

 Ask a partner what his/her favourite board game is.

Elzevir looked up and said, ‘Go home, boy! It’s late. But do not go through the churchyard. Blackbeard’s ghost walks there.’

We village children knew about Blackbeard. He was a very bad man when he lived. And when he died, he could not rest•. On dark nights, his ghost walked in the churchyard. Anybody who met the ghost would die! Cracky Jones died in the churchyard when I was eleven. Everybody said that he met Blackbeard.

As I arrived home, I could hear the storm beginning.

-
- **angrily:** in an angry way
 - **brandy:** alcoholic drink
 - **felt:** was (feeling)
 - **luck:** good and bad things that one cannot control

- **rest:** be quiet; (here) find peace
- **skill:** ability to do something

AFTER READING VOCABULARY

1 Use five of the words in the box to complete the sentences.

belt	bucket	donkeys	prayer
reward	rope	shield	sink

- a My aunt opened her book and read to me.
- b The Mohune family is white with a black “Y” inside it.
- c Boats brought the goods from the ship, and we put them onto
- d The guard had lots of keys on his
- e The ship was going to, and we had to leave it immediately.

2 Write three sentences with the words left out in Exercise 1.

3 Read the descriptions and complete the words.

- a not stay still m _ _ _
- b have; possess o _ _
- c one time o _ _ _
- d close; next to n _ _ _
- e a number of ships that sail together f _ _ _ _
- f good and bad things you can't control l _ _ _
- g (of people) very bad e _ _ _
- h but not; apart from e _ _ _ _ _
- i place under the ground for dead bodies t _ _ _

K A2 Key English Test Reading and Writing Part 4

1 Read the sentences and choose the correct answer (A, B or C).

1 'Do not go the churchyard. Blackbeard's ghost walks there.'

A at **B** under **C** through

2 The sound of the waves on the beach louder and louder.

A got **B** grow **C** get

3 What more is there to ?

A said **B** saying **C** say

4 'He is not a boy, he is the same age your David,' said Ratsey.

A of **B** as **C** like

5 I walked down the tunnel, but soon got very dark.

A it **B** once **C** then

6 He quickly behind a large coffin on the top shelf.

A jump **B** climb **C** hid

7 He sometimes stood outside and candles for the men.

A had **B** held **C** light

8 'There are some tunnels a day's from here,' he said.

A walk **B** off **C** away

9 'If you find the diamond, you must use the money to good,' said Grace.

A grow **B** do **C** make

10 There was a bucket hanging a long rope.

A along **B** with **C** from