

Read the extract from a book below and answer the questions afterwards. Remember to use the sequence that we use in school. Read through the text first, underline or write down any words you are unsure of, find out their meaning and write definitions then read the text again before even starting to answer the questions.

## ***Pugs of the Frozen North***

Winter came in the night, like a white sheet laid over the world. It came so cold and so fast that the waves of the ocean froze as they rolled. The good ship *Lucky Star* froze with them, trapped tight in the suddenly solid sea.

Shen the cabin boy, the youngest member of the crew, stirred in his sleep as the sounds of rippling and splashing faded into frozen silence. He snuggled deeper under the covers, trying to keep warm. Into the silence came other noises. First, the creaking of metal as the ice tightened its grip upon the old ship's sides. Then the voice of Captain Jeggings, bellowing, 'All hands on deck!'

The crew bumbled blinking from their bunks. Able Seaman Bo, Mungbean the ship's cook, and Shen. They stumbled out on deck and stared at the frozen waves which reared up all around them, stiff and white as giant meringues.

'Don't just stand there!' shouted Captain Jeggings, hauling on an icy rope. 'Get us out of here!'

The rope snapped in his hands with a sound like breaking glass. The *Lucky Star* groaned and quivered as the ice clenched tighter.

'What shall we do?' asked Shen.

But Captain Jeggings didn't know. Nor did Able Seaman Bo. Nor did Mungbean. They'd weathered storms and sat out calms, but they'd never seen a sea like this before.

*Creak. Crunch.* Big tusks of ice pushed the planks apart and pierced the *Lucky Star's* sides. *Slosh. Gurgle.* Cold black water which hadn't frozen yet came swirling in. The ship sagged, and all the icicles that decked her rigging tinkled cheerfully. But Captain Jeggings couldn't see anything to be cheerful about.

'The cargo!' he shouted. 'We must save the cargo!'

All summer long, the *Lucky Star* had been cruising from port to port, selling this and buying that. Two thousand chunky-knit jumpers from the Isles of Aran, a second-hand snowmobile—and sixty-six pugs. Captain Jeggings had said those tiny dogs would sell like hot pies. Now, down in the leaking hold, they set up a terrible howling as cold sea sloshed round their paws.



From *Pugs of the Frozen North*, by Philip Reeve and Sarah McIntyre

## Monday

1. What do the words '*suddenly solid sea*' at the end of the first paragraph tell us?
2. Why is the phrase '*like a white sheet laid over the world*' effective?
3. What does the word '*cargo*' mean in this text?
4. What do the words '*groaned and quivered*' in line 15 show us about the ship?

## Tuesday

5. When the Captain holds the rope, what happens?
6. Describe the appearance of the sea in this passage.
7. How do the sounds heard by the cabin boy change overnight?
8. What is the name of the youngest member of the crew?

## Wednesday

9. Are the crew used to dealing with this kind of weather? How do you know?
10. Do you think that this is a well-organized trip? Why?
11. How do you think the Captain is feeling about the situation?
12. How can the reader tell that the cabin boy does not want to get up?

## Thursday

13. What do the words '*bumbled blinking from their bunks*' suggest about how the crew are feeling? Why are they effective?
14. Why do you think the story is called 'Pugs of the Frozen North'?
15. Using evidence from the text, what do you think the 'cargo' is on the boat?
16. What do you think would happen next?

## Friday

Today I would like you to login to Epic and read a story of your choice. Once you have read it, you could choose to write a review about the book to say whether you enjoyed it or not.

Remember, I included examples of book reviews for you in the document from a few weeks ago. You could use these or create one of your own.

As always, if you have any problems, send me an email at [CPSClass11@corporationroad.darlington.sch.uk](mailto:CPSClass11@corporationroad.darlington.sch.uk)



Class Sign In Instructions

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1. Go to [www.getepic.com/students](http://www.getepic.com/students)
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