

A Pirate's Life

- A short story started by Shitou using the [A Pirate's Life](#) storyworld.

Game cards:

- Setting: “Caribbean Sea”
- Tone: “Hopeful”
- Beginning: “You're lost at sea...”
- Ending: “...and you have found new allies.”

Cast:

- Shitou is [Jack](#) (The Navigator) • 708 words
- Amy is [Cora](#) (The Quartermaster) • 612 words
- Thea is [Leo](#) (The Sail Master) • 1114 words

Act 1 Scene 1

Character Bonds

- Jack is Cora's Old friend
- Cora is Leo's Coworker
- Leo is Jack's Mentor

Scene cards:

- Place card: "Lagoon of Seaweed"
- Challenge card: "Distracted by the Siren Song"
- Success card: "You obtain important tools"
- Setback card: "A crew member has disappeared!"

Jack (Shitou) played their Motivation card "Prove someone wrong" and wrote:

Rocking on the so called 'Lagoon of Seaweed', the deadly deck of the

The first quotation mark is facing the wrong way

Hindenburg is currently being stepped by a crew so ferocious that they can

The word 'stepped' is used out of context here. Change for the word 'manned'

survive a fortnight through famine. That's what restraining them back to harbour presently.

Not too sure what you're trying to say here. Is the crew trying to get back to the harbour? Or are they so tough they don't need to go back to get some food?

I'm the only navigator in this colossal ship and right now, I'm nesting in my crow's nest.

Change 'nesting in' to say 'I'm looking out from'

We have set sail to find the 'The Ten Staked Markings', rumoured to be the world's greatest bootie but it's not going to be easy as there are many obstacles that will going to hinder us.

The words 'going to' are redundant (they're not needed)

" 10 O'CLOCK. THERE'S A STRONG CURRENT AT TEN O'CLOCK! " I shouted through a mouthful of the spring breeze.

"WHATJASAY",

When a new person speaks, drop down a line. This quickly shows that a new person has joined the conversation.

bellowed the belligerent cap'n. "I SAID THERE'S A STRONG CUR...

Use closed quotation marks when he finishes speaking even though he doesn't actually finish his sentence.

I was finished off by an ancient galleon falling from the lost summit of the clouds. Fear aroused through everyone.

Use the word 'coursed' instead of 'aroused'

Even the ship's mast trembled. Then we heard it. The siren song. The very thought of this brings back memories of my past. When I said that I am

Use 'was' instead of 'am' as this is in past tense.

going to find the siren song, everyone roared with laughter. Anyway, that's the past. Now, we have bigger fish to fry.

Use 'in' instead of 'the' here.

'HEY. LOOK AT THIS. WE FOUND A LOG POSE.'

"What? What's a log pose doing down here, unless..."

A gush of blood gradually emerged from the most of the sea. A sword also. It said capt...

A gush of blood would move quickly so the word 'gradually' doesn't fit here. Use 'oozed' instead and delete the word 'emerged' also rewrite the sentence to say 'A gush of blood oozed from the sea with a sword, the sword's writing said'

"AAAAAAAAA....."

Shitou sets the scene of the story brilliantly, everything can be visualised perfectly through the usage of imagery. The reader feels the fear of the crew when the siren's song is heard and the motivation card has been played well in the siren scenario. We learn early on that it's written from the navigator's perspective so we know who's telling the story. A well written scene with a good use of adjectives throughout.

Cora (Amy) played their Motivation card “Prove someone wrong” and the scene’s Setback card, “A crew member has disappeared!” and wrote:

‘Hi! What’s your name?’

“Henry.”

“Ok. Do you want to join us?”

“Yeah. Thanks.”

“Take this kid to dig the gold coins up by that palm tree.”

So I did what I was told and got on with the job.

“Can I go and explore that cave?” asked the kid

“Ok.”

I left the “crew member” to go to explore while I did my work.

But 20 minutes later.....

“OMG! You just lost one of the crew members!”

“Sorry.....I didn’t mean to lose him. I was digging out the gold coins and then he said he wanted to go and explore the cave nearby, but after 10 minutes when I went to look for him, HE DISAPPEARED!” I shouted.

Soon every one everyone on deck was all angry at me. I guess that was the end of that poor little kid being a pirate then.

Amy hasn’t made it clear at the beginning of the story who’s asking the first question, so we don’t know who the conversation is between. I’ve highlighted the sections of text that are written from the first person’s perspective (so the narrator talking) it changes from third person to first. I’m not too sure where the motivation card has been used? The **setback card** has been used well because it’s clear to see that someone has disappeared.

Leo (Thea) played their Motivation card "Make a new friend" and wrote:

We ~~wasere~~ sailing happily in the sea ~~and then~~ when the sea monster awoke with a roar. ~~All of a~~ s~~uddenly~~ the ~~all of the~~ crew ~~wasere~~ screaming. "BE QUIET!"

I too screamed at the top of my lungs. ~~T~~ then ~~all of a sudden~~ everyone stopped. The giant sea monster roared so hard that the sail of the ship flew off into the sea. Everyone was scared.

So, ~~then~~ i came up with an idea and I spoke to the sea monster gently. I whispered, "Where are you from and why are you stopping us from going onwards?"

The monster roared, "I have been sent here from the Greedy Monsters to stop you so they can get the treasure before you get there arrive as you always beat them in at treasure hunting and they think it's unfair. ~~so~~ They sent me ~~ontoto~~ to face you and i am not allowed to disobey them because I am their master so i am afraid i have to stop you."

"But we have to go on further." I begged

"Alright as you guys look so friendly i will let you go." sSmiled the sea monster

"Thank you very much." ~~we~~ at the crew I shouted. friendly

~~We~~ set sail again ~~and~~ all of a sudden and soon I saw a small island. We all voted that we should go and explore that island. ~~so we went there~~. When we went arrived there everyone was hungry so we went to explore the island to look for food. we didn't see anything until I saw a coconut tree. So i called I said, "Everyone look what I found."

Everyone ran over and they were all surprised. I shook the tree but nothing happened my mate came to try and help but still nothing happened. ~~so~~ eEveryone came and shook it as hard as they can ould but only one coconut fell off.

~~But~~ But, that isn't enough for all of us, you can't share 1 coconut with 16 people." I said.

So, we all shook the tree again and to our luck 15 more came down. "YAY!" we all cried excitedly."

Thea's writing is slightly disjointed with the use of 'then' quite often, this tends to stop the flow of a story. The writing changes to first person on the highlighted section this could be left out completely as the text is redundant here. You could say "So, I spoke to the sea monster gently" Her motivation card has been used well as it's obvious the monster has befriended the crew. Also, it's not too clear who's telling the story.

Jack (Shitou) played their Flaw card “Nervous” and the scene’s Success card, “You feel rested and replenished,” and wrote:

As apprehensive as a cow chased by a ~~herd~~pack of bulldogs, the Hiddenburg trembled ~~in~~with fear ~~fiercely~~ as we saw the captain’s name tag along ~~in~~with a sword covered in guts and blood.

One of the crew even got sick.

“AAaarrgh!...” One of the shipmates said as they vanished into thin air, followed by ~~And~~ another. Another one came up withcovered in intestines and a ball sackblood. After 4 sea dogs died, I figured it out. The more afraid you awere, the quicker you died.

I then told the rest of the 32 scums as rapidquickly as I canould so no body else ~~other valuable lives can be wasted to~~ had to die.

“BE COURAGEOUS THY WE WILL REMAIN VICTORIOUS!” In a blink of an eye, the torrential, melancholy clouds turned into clogs of gold and jewellery, WE WERE IN PARADISE!

Shitou has made use of a clever simile by comparing the Hiddenburg to a cow chased by a pack of bulldogs. Again, watch the tense of the story as you write, as it changes. It starts in past tense with the use of words such as ‘chased’ and ‘covered’ and then changes to present tense with words such as ‘can’ and ‘dies’ The **flaw card** has been played well but I’m not too sure about the **success card** as there’s no reference to them being rested and replenished.

Act 3 Scene 1

Scene cards:

- Place card: "Enclave of the Black Sand"
- Challenge card: "A crew member has fallen overboard!"
- Success card: "You're able to re-stock your food supply"
- Setback card: "There's talk of mutiny!"

Leo (Thea) played their Flaw card "Scary" and wrote:

~~w~~We travelled and travelled until we reached the ~~E~~enclave of the black sand. It was ~~all~~ windy by that time. ~~The~~and it ~~wind~~ blew onto our faces, ~~and we all~~which made us shivered. It was the coldest day that we ~~haved~~ travelled. We all went to get our coats. ~~But~~ ~~all of a~~ suddenly the ship began to rock side ~~by~~to side so hard.

I shouted, "Grab onto the heaviest thing you can find on this ~~boat~~ship!"

We all ~~went to~~ grabbed onto something except the sailor. ~~Then suddenly t~~The ~~boat~~ship rocked so hard that the sailor flew ~~ef~~overboard into the sea.

"Help!" he called, but nobody noticed as they were all ~~to~~ busy worrying about themselves. Then ~~the~~ ~~boat~~ship started to ~~meander~~ ~~hardly~~drift.

"Where are you sail master? ~~e~~Come on this is no joke we aren't playing hide and seek!" I shouted but there was no reply.

Everybody started to get nervous and scream~~inged~~. ~~But~~ I had an idea as ~~i~~ had attended sailing school, ~~i~~ knew how to sail so ~~i~~ took over.

Thea makes good use of the noun 'enclave' and has managed to use her flaw card well in the text. She has set the scene nicely and followed on well from Shitou's piece very effectively by starting her text with the ship travelling. Always use the same language as the other students so, if they've called the vessel a 'ship' don't alter this to 'boat' Watch out for changing into first person narrative for example at the end 'I had an idea' The flaw card is used brilliantly in the text.

Jack (Shitou) played their Motivation card "Teach someone something" and wrote:

1 YEAR LATER

The Hinderberg's mast was replaced by solar-powered poles so that it ~~can~~could ~~be~~ circumnavigate the seas without any wind or breeze. ~~and~~the wheel to steer ~~that~~the ~~caravel~~ship was now an an autonomous control so when everyone was asleep, the Hinderberg ~~can~~could steer ~~by~~ itself.

The treasure we found was worth a fortune and a ragged, bloody treasure map came with it as well. The once ~~deadly~~poor ship transformed into a ~~rank 1 caravel~~luxurious one with grass carpets and a hot-seated toilet that you ~~can~~could actually flush instead of picking it up. Here's a lesson to you all that my dad told me: ?

~~-~~THE MORE PAIN YOU ~~EAT~~HAVE NOW, THE LESS PAIN YOU ~~HAVE TO~~MUST ENDURE LATER~~!~~. HAVE FAITH IN YOURSELF.

Shitou has a good grasp of English language, which shows by his usage of words such as 'circumnavigate' and 'autonomous' again watch out for changing the tense of the text. For instance, it starts with 'replaced' so past tense and then alters to 'can steer' which is present tense instead of 'could steer' The motivation card is played well in this piece.

Cora (Amy) played their Strength card “Lucky” and the scene’s Success card, “You’re able to re-stock your food supply,” and wrote:

Now that I ~~have to~~must navigate -, I can focus on trying to find somewhere that I can go and restore ~~my~~the food. ~~T~~The crew members on board are very hungrey-, so I need to get food fast or they won’t have the energy to dig for treasures.

1 DAY LATER

FINALLY! ~~w~~We have ~~come to~~arrived at a small town where we can re-stock our food! ~~u~~Uesing only 5% of the money we have, we bought some delicius bread, vegetetables -, fruits, nuts and some pork. We also thought a pan might be useful ~~et~~o cook the meat and vegetables in. ~~T~~The memberscrew ate their food as quick as a flash and wanted more, but I rejected themir wishes. ~~There for,~~ ~~w~~We still needed it for our long journey to North ~~w~~Wales to dig up the treasure -.

Amy remember to pay attention to the previous text. Your text is written in first person and Shitou’s is written in third person. The strength card is used well because they find a small town and the success card is played brilliantly and instructions followed to perfection.

Epilogue

Leo (Thea) played their Flaw card “Scary” and wrote:

Tim (our sailor) shouted, “Eureka Eureka!” Everybody ~~came~~ ran to see what the excitement was.

He said that we were near ~~by~~ an island covered with gold.

“Yay!” everybody shouted.

“So how far until we get there?” I asked.

“-About 3 miles away.”

We ran the engine faster so that we could get there ~~more faster~~ quicker. When we ~~got there~~ arrived -we started to ~~dig~~ hunt for the golden, beautiful treasure with a metal detector. ~~w~~We split up into different groups. I was with Tim and we started to look. ~~Then~~ Suddenly, the machine beeped we started digging as fast as we ~~can~~ could but all we found was an old battery.

Then Emily (our headmaster) shouted, “~~i~~ think ~~i~~ found it!”

~~w~~We all ~~came~~ went over to see a magical rusty box. We opened it with ~~all~~ our might. Inside, ~~there was a lovely~~ glimmering treasure ~~was~~ waiting for us.

“Mission ~~completed~~ accomplished!” we all cheered.

I like how Thea has explained who the people are by putting their role in brackets after their names. The text is written in past tense and consistently stays in that text throughout, well done Thea. My main criticism is that the flaw card is not really played here as I can't feel anything scary as such.

Jack (Shitou) played their Motivation card “Find something that’s lost” and wrote:

Extra

Have you ever had the feeling when you’re excited but also have butterflies in your stomach? Well, that’s how we felt when we were closing in on a harbour. No, I mean THE harbour. Exactly 4 years ago, ~~years ago~~, we set sail on this very spot of the harbour; the harbour included a beach like many others do.

“PREPARE TO DISEMBARK!” barked out the captain’s first mate.

“WE’VE GOT MIST FORMING!” cried out someone from the deck.

“HEY, SAILSMAN. WHAT CAN YOU SEE UP THERE-?” That’ll be me then, I thought.

-I positioned my ~~one-holed binocular~~ monocular into my right eye, closing the left eye in the process. CLANG! As the wooden ~~binocular~~ monocular collided with the wooden deck, it made some people ~~capsized~~ jump and then ~~collapse~~ inge.

WHAT HAVE I SEEN-!

Innocent mothers s and their children, slaughtered one by one.

Buildings once withbursting with pride were now caught up by an eternal tides of deceased people and the most lavish part of the village, the golden beach, ~~was~~ now stained ~~with~~ with blood.

“IT’S THE OVAL. THE POWER OF THE OVAL,” I ~~bawled~~ cried out, as tears ~~swell~~ inged in my eyes. The oval was something we lost at the start of our journey.

I forgot to tell you this but when we saw the treasure map, it said: ‘WHOM M-EVER SPENDS THE FORTUNE PAYS THE PRICE.’

Shitou’s text doesn’t flow on from Thea’s piece, as in Thea’s text the crew were treasure hunting and now in Shitou’s place the crew are back on the ship and heading into a harbour. It’s a powerful text and Shitou uses imagery to create a visual scene exceptionally well. The motivation card hasn’t been used well, what has been found that was once lost? The buildings etc are lost now they’ve not been lost and then found.

Cora (Amy) played their Motivation card "Face a fear" and wrote:

Have you ever faced fear before? Well, i certainly have. Its was only 15 minutes ago, when I met this person called 'fFear', he hasd an very cold and black heart, and was never kind to people.

Let me tell you how it all happened.

Everyone on deck was doing their job, when our old captain (-who is dead) came alive and started moaning, every-body was horrified! But then, another ghost came out of his body with a big word over it "FEAR". He wearsore black all over, probably because the captain's soul had fear within it.

Then the captain's ghost talked.:" "Do you still all seek the island of nNorth Carolina?"

"No,.....captain we are too scared,.....We are too weak without your help."

"Then you must defeat it, like i did with my fear, you just saw some of it come out of my soul, because I have the courage to make it go away, and that is what you want tomust do."

As soon as he said that, he disappeared into thin air,.....

Amy plays her motivation card very well in her text. I like the way the question is asked to begin the text and then the explanation about how fear was felt and why. Also, the text has an open end so it can be continued. Just watch the swap between past and present tense.

Overall comment: Students need to be aware of writing in the different tenses, as this is the biggest recurring fault throughout their writing.

Many of the texts don't flow on from the previous text try to read the previous text and follow their direction.

Be mindful of the previous writing. For example: if in the previous text the crew are on board the ship then in the next scene keep them on the ship, don't suddenly have the crew elsewhere.

Keep to the same consistent language used throughout. For example: if the vessel is called a '**ship**' don't call it by any other name than '**ship**'

All the students write with imagination and use plenty of imagery, this is a key ingredient for storytelling. It sets the scene for the reader.