



2 The Young Writers' Club

Reading

One day Mike and his friends were writing a story together.

'Let's write about pirates!' said Mike.

Kelly pulled a face. 'I want to write about a princess,' she said.

'Ghosts!' said Ann.

'We can write about them all,' said Alan. 'How should we start?'

'Once upon a time ...' said Kelly. She started to write.

'... there was a pirate called Little Jim,' continued Mike.

'What was Jim doing?' asked Alan.

'Jim was sailing his ship which was full of treasure,' Mike suggested.
'Suddenly there was a terrible storm ...'

'That's a good start,' said Ann. 'Now we need a middle. What happened next?'

'During the storm, Jim fell overboard,' said Alan. 'He swam and swam and soon reached an island.'

'I don't understand,' said Mike. '“He swam and swam” means he swam for a long time, but “soon” means after a short time.'

'Oh you're right,' said Alan, 'I've chosen the wrong word. I should say, “He swam and swam and at last reached an island.”'

'Then a ghost appeared,' suggested Ann.

'What did it look like?' asked Mike.



‘It was a pirate ghost with ... erm ... a white beard – as white as snow – and a wooden leg,’ Ann said.

‘This story needs a problem,’ said Kelly. ‘What if the pirate ghost had a prisoner? She was a sad, but lovely, princess.’

‘Now we need a solution,’ said Alan.

‘I’ve got an idea,’ said Ann. ‘Jim fought with the ghost and won. The ghost floated away so the princess was free to leave.’

‘Now we just need an ending,’ said Alan.

‘Jim and the princess lived happily ever after on the island. The end,’ said Kelly.

Mike and Alan looked at each other. ‘It’s a bit boring,’ they said.

‘Mmm ... What if someone else was on the island ...’ said Ann.

‘Yes!’ said Alan excitedly. ‘Aliens!’

‘Fairies!’ said Ann.

‘You’ve got enough ideas for another story,’ laughed Mike.

Kelly got some more paper. ‘OK,’ she said. ‘Let’s write a sequel then. How should we start?’



Name: _____ ()

Class: _____ Date: _____

Post-reading

Write the answers and blacken ● the circles.

1 What was Jim doing when the storm started?

2 Where did Jim meet the ghost?

3 Why did Jim fight with the ghost?

4 Read Paragraph 19: The ghost floated away so the princess was free to leave. What does 'free' mean?

free *adj*

1. not busy, e.g. Are you free this Saturday?
2. not costing you any money, e.g. Buy four cans and get a free gift!
3. not held / not a prisoner, e.g. I let the dog run free in the park.
4. not being used, e.g. Is this seat free?

A. 1 B. 2 C. 3 D. 4

5 Which of the following is NOT true?

- A. The boys did not like Kelly's ending.
- B. The children quarrelled with one another.
- C. The children had lots of ideas.
- D. The children enjoyed writing.

6 Choose the best title for the children's story.

- A. Pirate Jim and his Treasure
- B. The Sad Prisoner
- C. A Bad Fight
- D. Pirate Jim's Adventure