

## Tandango

The lost island of Tandango had long ago, as the name implied, been lost. Not in any meaningful sense; after all, hundreds of people lived there, and they knew exactly where it was. But it had been lost in the way that these kinds of islands often were. The small, secretive harbour that had once welcomed pirates from all over the globe, now saw nothing more than the occasional fishing boat.

According to Captain Bristlebeard, the whole state of affairs was a disgrace, and not least because he knew his old friend Captain Red-Eye had hidden an awful lot of treasure there. So, like all good pirates, Bristlebeard had scoured the streets and rounded up as many ruffians and outlaws as he could and piled them all aboard his trusty ship - The Pelican.

For many years, there had been rumours of a map that showed the exact location of the island of Tandango. Captain Bristlebeard knew that the rumours were true because he had the map. If he was honest, it wasn't proving to be very useful. Captain Red-Eye hadn't travelled very much and, once he'd discovered the island of Tandango, hadn't left. This meant that while the map did, in fact, show the island of Tandango, it didn't include any other useful information, such as other countries, islands or even the name of the ocean. It was, in fact, a blank piece of parchment with a dot in the middle.

Captain Bristlebeard was annoyed. His crew were getting on his nerves, and even the ship's parrot had started mocking him. All it said, day and night, was, "Are we nearly there yet?". He blamed the crew for that. The problem was, the parrot was right. Bristlebeard would be the first to say that he wasn't a very good captain, though he'd have to say it quite quickly because there were plenty of others who'd jump in to say it for him. But he'd really thought he'd hit the jackpot with this adventure. If they could find the island, there'd be enough treasure for everyone. If he could get them to like him, he was sure they could get along brilliantly.

It had been a few days since the captain had left his chambers. He suffered from terrible sea-sickness every time he stepped onto the deck, and he didn't want the men to see him throw up over the side. "Problems are there to be dealt with," he said to his reflection in his mirror, repeating a line his mother had often said when he was a young boy dreaming of one day ruling the waves. He puffed out his chest, waited for the nausea to pass, and stepped out onto the deck. Unfortunately, a rolling wave had the same idea and crashed down over the captain. A small fish flapped around in his hat. Seaweed hung from his ear. He wasn't surprised.

"Land ahoy!" The welcome cry from the crow's nest cheered the captain up immediately. Even if it wasn't Tandango, dry land would mean they could restock on food and water. And if it was Tandango, then all their problems would be solved.

As they drifted into the harbour, Captain Bristlebeard saw a sign that made his heart sing. Some of the letters had long ago faded, but there, picked out in painted wooden letters, was the name of the island.

## Tandango



**1**

What impression do you get about Captain Bristlebeard from the text?

Give two impressions, using evidence from the text to support your answer.

Impression	Evidence
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3 marks

**2**

Which **two** of the following statements do you think are true, based on the text?

Tick **two**.

Captain Red-Eye had travelled a lot.

Captain Bristlebeard and Captain Red-Eye were friends.

The boat was called The Parrot.

Captain Bristlebeard didn't like the ocean.

\_\_\_\_\_

2 marks





**3**

Find the paragraph that begins **According to Captain Bristlebeard...**

**Find** and **copy a phrase** that tells you Captain Bristlebeard wasn't happy with how things were.

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1 mark

**4**

a) What is the name of the lost island?

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1 mark

b) Using evidence from the whole text, give two reasons why Captain Bristlebeard wants to find the lost island.

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2 marks

**5**

Why was the map useless for finding the lost island?

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1 mark



# SATs Practice - Answers

1. **Give 1 mark for two correct impressions. Give an extra mark for each correct explanation with evidence from the text.**

**Nervous/Not a very good captain**

*He keeps getting seasick*

*He would be the first to say he wasn't the best captain, but others would say it as well*

*The parrot was mocking him*

**Feels sorry for himself**

*He wasn't surprised when the wave hit him*

*He wants his crew to like him*

**He always wanted to be a pirate**

*It says that he used to dream about ruling the waves*

2. **Give 1 mark for each correct answer.**

Captain Bristlebeard and Captain Red-Eye were friends.

Captain Bristlebeard didn't like the ocean.

3. The whole state of affairs was a disgrace

4. a) Tandango

- b) **Give one mark for each correct answer:**

There is a lot of treasure there

He wants his crew to be friends with him

5. It didn't have any information on it