

Out at Sea

7A

There's nothing quite like paying a lot of money to feel really sick. Jamie is finally riding on a real sailing **frigate**, and he's never felt so ill in his life.

"You know why they call feeling really sick nausea, don't you?" Aleksander moans. "*Naus* means ship in Greek. It's the sea that makes you sick."

It does, it does! None of them have ever felt so ill in their lives—especially when they remember what they've paid for it. The sailors mock them privately, as sailors have always laughed at **landlubbers**. It is the worst birthday present ever.

"What about the romance of the sea?" asks Aleksander. His face is an unhappy shade of green.

"I was wrong!" Jamie cries. "I hate the sea!"

Yet Jamie doesn't feel quite so ill when he climbs up on deck in the morning. A quiet little **zephyr** tousles his hair and catches in the sails, pushing the ship along.

The old love of the sea swells in Jamie's chest. He watches the sailors unfurling the topgallant sails far above him. He sees the prow cut boldly through the green water. Jamie plants his feet firmly against the rolling of the deck and smiles. The sea may make landlubbers sick, but not Jamie. Jamie is a sailor.



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LO: Comprehension

1. What emotions are expressed in this story?
 - a. fear and excitement
 - b. anger and sadness
 - c. disappointment and happiness
2. What will Jamie say about his sailing experience later?
 - a. It was wonderful.
 - b. It was awful.
 - c. It was too expensive.
3. The word **landlubbers** means
 - a. people who cry when they get sick.
 - b. people who own property.
 - c. people who don't know much about the sea.

4. Jamie goes on deck because
 - a. it's his birthday.
 - b. he feels better.
 - c. he is a landlubber.
5. Which of the following is most likely to be true?
 - a. Jamie hates the sea.
 - b. Jamie has wanted to go sailing for a long time.
 - c. Jamie has been on many ships before.

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