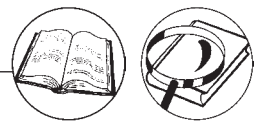


# Inhalt

<b>Vorwort</b> .....	4
A smuggler (262 words, class 8) .....	5–6
Arson (295 words, class 8) .....	7–8
Blackmail (366 words, class 8) .....	9–10
Crime wave (385 words, class 8) .....	11–12
Suicide or murder? (390 words, class 8) .....	13–15
Robbery with violence (589 words, class 8) .....	16–18
Crime nuggets (430 words, class 9) .....	19–20
Casual genocide (471 words, class 9) .....	21–22
The trial of the three Piggs (552 words, class 9) .....	23–25
Anita's big day (735 words, class 9) .....	26–28
Bloody diamonds (1036 words, class 9) .....	29–32
The jewel thief (859 words, class 9) .....	33–36
The sportsman (933 words, class 9) .....	37–40
The mysteries of English Pronunciation! (298 words, class 10) .....	41–42
Blackbeard the pirate (1054 words, class 10) .....	43–46
Crazy crimes (1157 words, class 10) .....	47–50
The mystery of the Mary Celeste (943 words, class 10) .....	51–55
First colony (1575 words, class 10) .....	56–61
The merry widows (1590 words, class 10) .....	62–66
<b>Lösungen</b> .....	67–74
<b>Bildnachweise</b> .....	75



# A smuggler

Fiona Gordon is a customs officer and she works at Sumburgh Airport, the main airport for the Shetland Islands. One morning she got an anonymous phone call. It was a woman's voice, but she wouldn't give her name. She told Fiona that a drug smuggler would arrive on the 10:20 a.m. flight from Bergen, Norway. She told Fiona that he had lots of passports with different names. On his Canadian passport his name was Pierre Lavin and on his Australian passport his name was George Formby. He had other passports, too, but she didn't know what they were or what the names were. Then she hung up. Before the helicopter from Bergen landed, Fiona phoned the airline and they sent her a passenger list. There were only ten passengers: Liv Petersen – a cook, Liz Dixon – a reporter, Claire Oswald – a sailor, Amy Ryan – a soldier, Jean Forbes – a nurse, Ann Baxter – an aircraft mechanic, Johan van Bostok – a doctor, Mary James – a carpenter, Diana Levine – a banker, and Moira Douglas – an oil worker. Fiona looked at the names; there was nobody called Pierre Lavin or George Formby, but she already had a good idea who the smuggler was. When the helicopter landed, the passengers picked up their luggage and then showed her their passports. When the doctor reached her, she was sure. She took his passport and held it up. That was the pre-arranged signal. Two police officers came out of an office behind her and arrested the man. Fiona found the drugs in his medical bag – it had a false bottom.



1. How did Fiona know that the doctor was the smuggler? All the clues are in the text, but you must think logically!

.....

.....

.....



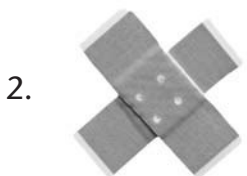
2. Find these words in the text and look at the context. What are their meanings in German?

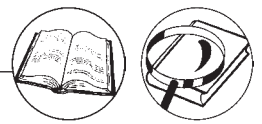
- 1. customs officer (line 1) .....
- 2. anonymous (line 2) .....
- 3. voice (line 3) .....
- 4. flight (line 4) .....
- 5. to hang up (line 7) .....
- 6. luggage (line 15) .....
- 7. pre-arranged (line 16) .....
- 8. bottom (line 18) .....



3. Match the jobs in the box with the following photo clues.

- soldier*                      *doctor*                      *oil worker*                      *lorry driver*
- banker*                      *sailor*                      *police officer*                      *cook*
- mechanic*                      *reporter*                      *nurse*                      *carpenter*





# Arson

Spyros X. Panadopolis was a multimillionaire with lots of enemies. That's why he wanted to buy Diablos Island. It was the perfect place for his dream home. It was one hundred and fifty kilometres from the nearest land and could only be reached by helicopter or ship. There were high cliffs all around the island and a small beach

5 on the south side of the island was the only place where a helicopter or a ship could land. The rest of the island was a thick forest of bamboo trees. If he built a house there, he would be safe from his enemies. There was only one problem – the island belonged to an old man called Roderigo who lived there in an old wooden shack and he wouldn't sell the island to Spyros at any price.

10 Late one afternoon Roderigo was fishing from a rock on his beach when he noticed a big yacht near the west side of the island. Then he heard a helicopter. "It's that fat millionaire again," he thought. But the helicopter didn't come near his beach. It turned around and flew back to the yacht. Just then there was a very bright flash! Then another, and another, and a second later another. Then

15 Roderigo saw the smoke. All across the west side of the island the bamboo trees were burning. There was a wind from the west and soon Roderigo could smell the smoke. The fire was coming towards him. It would reach his little beach in about ten minutes or so. Roderigo knew he couldn't run into the sea; there were too many sharks there. In the evening they came close to the shore to feed. Roderigo knew

20 there was only one way that he could survive the fire.



1. Discuss Roderigo's problem with a partner. Can you think of a way for him to survive the fire?



2. Antonyms: Find the words in the text, which have the opposite meanings of the following words.

1. friends

.....

2. farthest

.....

3. low

.....

4. thin

.....

5. early

.....

6. few

.....



3. Complete the sentences with a word from the text.

1. "If you aren't my friend, then you must be my ..... ." is an example of black and white thinking.
2. An ..... is an area of land with water all around it.
3. A ..... doesn't need a long runway to land or take off.
4. There are high white ..... along the coast near Dover.
5. A ..... is the sandy area between the land and the sea.
6. Lots of cows make a herd, lots of trees make a .....
7. Seagulls (*Möwen*) build their nests high up on cliffs where they'll be ..... from rats.
8. My mother uses ..... spoons in the kitchen.
9. We keep our bikes in an old ..... behind our house.
10. I liked the camera, but I didn't buy it because I thought the ..... was too high.
11. When I fell down, I cut my knee on a sharp .....
12. There's no fire without ..... !



4. Fill in the missing words in the following sentences.

1. It was Emily's birthday and she wanted ..... leave work early.
2. For many people, Mallorca is the perfect place ..... a holiday home.
3. It's a small island and it can only be reached ..... boat.
4. I ate two sandwiches and gave the rest ..... them to the ducks in the pond.
5. Who does the house belong ..... ?
6. There was a narrow path ..... the beach to the village.
7. I stood on a rock and jumped ..... the cool water of the lake.
8. We went to the airport ..... meet our friends from Australia.



## Blackbeard the pirate

The early eighteenth century was a golden time for pirates in the Caribbean. There were thousands of small islands where they could hide, lots of unarmed ships they could attack and rob and the European colonies in Central America and North America were far apart, weak, and often badly governed. Piracy was regarded as a 'victimless' crime. The pirate ships had more canons than the merchant ships they robbed and also had bigger crews who were well armed and trained fighters. The smaller crews of the merchant ships often surrendered without a fight. The pirates usually put the sailors into a lifeboat and gave them enough food and water to reach land. The pirates then sailed their 'prize' to another port in another colony where the ship and its cargo would be sold. The original owners of the ship and the cargo would then claim the loss from their insurance companies. Catching the pirates was a very difficult and very expensive task and the pirates knew that as long as they kept a low profile (*untertauchen*), they were safe.



Jolly Roger

Edward Teach, known as Blackbeard, broke this tradition. He demanded money from the ship owners and the governors of the colonies for the lives of captured crews and killed them if they couldn't pay. He once captured a sailor who had married a woman Blackbeard had wanted to marry. He killed the sailor and sent his wedding ring back to his widow in a silver box – still on her dead husband's hand! We would describe him today as a psychopathic killer. Although his life of piracy was only 27 months long, he became the most feared pirate of those times. Even his appearance was frightening. His wild, shoulder-length black hair and his unkempt beard covered most of this face. Before attacking a ship he would stick burning rope matches into his hair and over his bare, hairy chest he wore a thick leather belt with six pistols on it. For many sailors, he looked like the devil himself. Perhaps women saw more in him because he had 14 wives – but not all at the same time!



Blackbeard

By the summer of 1716 Blackbeard was the leader of a pirate fleet. He led about 300 pirates on five ships. His flagship was the biggest ship, the Queen Anne's Revenge, which had 40 guns. He was now powerful enough to attack cities. When he sailed into Charleston Harbour in South Carolina and demanded money and supplies, they gave him what he wanted without firing a shot. Blackbeard now terrorized all the English colonies along the North American coast. The Governor of North Carolina was Charles Eden, a very corrupt official. In April 1718 Blackbeard bought a royal pardon from him. This meant that he couldn't be arrested for the crimes he had committed before. Blackbeard bought a fine house in Bath and married a 16-year-old girl called Mary Ormond.





Blackbeard enjoyed his life in Bath, but many people in North Carolina and the other colonies were very unhappy with the situation. A powerful group of rich plantation owners, merchants and ship owners protested to King George I in England and wrote to Lord Spotswood, the Governor of Virginia. They asked him to send Royal Navy ships to capture Blackbeard and his pirates. Blackbeard knew he couldn't stay in Bath, it was only a small town with a small harbour and he wouldn't be safe there. Not far away there was an island called Ocracoke that had lots of small rivers and creeks. It would be much more suitable as a pirate base. In October of 1717 Blackbeard took over the island and began building a fort on one of the creeks. He chose the place because large battleships couldn't reach it, the water in the creek wasn't deep enough. When he learned about this, Governor Spotswood hired two sloops and on the 17th of November, 1717, Lieutenant Robert Maynard of the Royal Navy and 50 royal marine soldiers and four seamen set sail for Ocracoke Island.



sloop

Governor Eden knew about Maynard's task force and he wrote to Blackbeard and warned him. Blackbeard set a trap for Maynard's ships: He placed his own ship, the Adventure, behind a hidden underwater sandbank. Maynard's two sloops found Blackbeard's ship on the evening of the 21st of November. The battle started early the next morning. The two sloops sailed towards Blackbeard's ships. One of the sloops ran aground on the sandbank and Blackbeard destroyed it with his canon, killing everyone on board. But Maynard in his sloop was now very close to Blackbeard's ship, too close for the canons. The pirates threw homemade bombs onto the sloop. These were metal boxes with a rope fuse, filled with gunpowder, musket balls, and scrap iron. Luckily, Maynard had guessed what they would do and he and his seamen were below decks when they exploded.

When the smoke cleared Blackbeard thought he had won and he jumped onto the sloop's deck and shouted for his men to follow him. Maynard and his marines then ran onto the deck and met the pirates in a bloody hand-to-hand battle. Although Blackbeard was shot several times, he still fought on. When Maynard's sabre broke, Blackbeard knocked him down. Just then a marine cut him across the throat with his sabre. Blackbeard threw his cutlass away and pulled two pistols from his belt, but he fell over and died before he could fire them. Only nine of his pirates survived the battle.



cutlass

Maynard cut off Blackbeard's head and hung it from the bowsprit of his sloop. It was a bitter victory, 26 marines had been killed in the battle. He and the survivors sailed to Bath with their prisoners. The pirates were tried on the evening of their arrival and hanged from the harbour walls early the next morning. The pirate terror was over, but a mystery remained: Where had Blackbeard hidden his vast treasure? One of the pirates said that on the night before the battle one of the crew had asked Blackbeard if his young wife knew where he had buried 'their' money. Blackbeard had shot him in the head with a pistol and said, "Nobody but me and the devil know where my money is, and the one who lives the longest can take it all."



1. Answer the following questions about the text.

1. Why did pirates in the early 18th century try to 'keep a low profile'?

.....  
.....

2. What made Blackbeard different from most other pirates?

.....  
.....

3. Why did Blackbeard start building a fort on Ocracoke Island?

.....  
.....

4. Lt. Maynard's sloops had no canons. Was this an advantage or a disadvantage and why were such small ships chosen for the attack?

.....  
.....

5. Why do you think Lt. Maynard cut off Blackbeard's head and hung it from the bowsprit of his sloop?

.....  
.....



2. There are seven paragraphs in the text. Choose a suitable heading for each one.

The terror begins .....

A mystery remains .....

The Governor of Virginia steps in .....

A bloody end .....

The golden age of piracy .....

The devil marries .....

Death on a sandbank .....

Pete Oldham: Kriminell gut lesen – Englisch Klasse 8–10  
© Auer Verlag – AAP Lehrerfachverlage GmbH, Donauwörth



netzwerk lernen





3. Complete the sentences with a word from the text.

paragraph 1, lines 1–15:

1. A person who doesn't carry a gun or other weapon is .....
2. Not all of the English colonies in North America were ..... well.
3. Sensible ship owners always insured their ships and their valuable .....

paragraph 2, lines 16–29:

4. When a husband dies, his wife becomes a .....
5. At a job interview, your ..... is very important. You should be clean and wear sensible clothes.
6. Most women don't like a man with an ..... beard.

paragraph 3, lines 30–40:

7. In a fleet, the Admiral's ship is called the .....
8. State officials who sell their services to criminals for money are .....

paragraph 4, lines 41–55:

9. Big farms that grow sugar and tobacco are often called .....
10. .... are special soldiers who can fight on land or aboard a ship.

paragraph 5, lines 56–66:

11. Underwater ..... make creeks dangerous for big ships.
12. A burning piece of ..... was used to fire canons and pistols or as a fuse on a homemade bomb.

paragraph 6, lines 67–75:

13. A sabre had a long curved blade (*Klinge*), a ..... was shorter, but much heavier.

paragraph 7, lines 76–84:

14. The people left alive after a big battle or accident are the .....
15. '..... Island' is a very famous book about pirates and it has been filmed many times.