

## A play about pirates

### Cast:

Parrot: the ship's chatty, feathered mascot

Sam: a child-pirate (girl or boy)

Ben: a grey-bearded pirate

Pretty Polly: wise woman of the white cliffs

Captain: the pirate leader (man or woman)

A Knight in armour (a non- speaking part)



### Scene 1

On the deck of the pirate ship

**Parrot:** Pieces of eight!

**Sam:** Four and four.

**Parrot:** Pieces of eight!

**Sam:** Two and two and two and two.

**Ben:** Sam! Why are you hooting like an owl?

**Sam:** I'm not. Parrot is testing me on fractions.

**Ben:** Oh! Are you still on Stage One? I'm on Stage Three.

**Captain:** Stop showing off, Ben. You're a lot older.

**Ben:** Not a lot. I just look old because there's so much frey in my beard. That and the eyepatch. It makes me look over 50.

**Captain:** You are over 50.

**Ben:** I am? When did that happen?

**Captain:** Last week. Surely you remember the cake with all the candles. IT set fire to the sail...

**Ben:** (Shaking his head.) No. It's my age. I forget things, you see...

**Captain:** Do you even remember when we're going?

(Ben shakes his head)

**Parrot:** To Pretty Polly!

**Captain:** Do you remember now that Parrot's reminded you?

(Ben shales his head.)

**Parrot:** Oh, really! Captain, why do you let him stay?

**Captain:** Mostly, it's just because he makes very good pancakes.

**Parrot:** I don't like them. They don't have seeds in them.



**Sam:** You shouldn't be so fussy. They're fantastic pancakes!

**Ben:** Thank you.

**Remember**

Genre describes the style of something. For examples a play could be:

A comedy (funny), a tragedy (sad), a romance (a love story)

1. Tick the genre of this play about pirates.

- Comedy
- Tragedy
- Romance

2. Underline anything the parrot says that is surprising.

3. Write 3 things that we know about Ben.

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4. How old is Ben?

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5. Where are they going? How do you know? Use a sentence from the text to support your answer.

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