



How to beat pirates?

As the pirates pillage with impunity off the Horn of Africa, the U.S. Navy has some advice: the best defense is ... well, a better defense! The problem is once the pirates get on board commercial ships, and take the crews hostages, the options are limited, and most countries or companies just pay the ransom, which only emboldens the pirates to pull off even more high-profile hijackings. While the U.S. Navy patrols the Gulf of Aden as part of a multi-national force, it can't be everywhere at once patrolling the waters off the coast of Somalia and Kenya

The best, simplest answer is better shipboard defenses and protective procedures, one U.S. Navy spokesman tells CNN. "It is like protecting a warehouse on land", he says "You wouldn't leave a warehouse full of valuable merchandise unguarded." . And shipboard defenses don't necessarily have to involve heavy weapons. Attacks have been repelled by the use of fire hoses. The pirates who operate from safe seaports in Somalia are good at travelling on ships in small boats, and using hooks to quickly board and dominate the crews who are often caught by surprise and unarmed.

So another answer is to flood the area around cargo ships with light, and post more people on watch. Armed security teams are needed to both dissuade and repel borders. That costs money, of course, and shipping companies are always trying to keep costs low. According to the U.S. Navy too many of the merchant ships sailing the dangerous waters off the Horn of Africa are going too slow, making them fat targets. Travelling at top speed and taking evasive maneuvers would make the job of the pirates much more intimidating. But going faster burns more fuel, which again, costs money.

Still, it's cheaper than ransom.

1. Comprehension exercises (2 points):

1.a – The U.S. Navy (0.5 points):

- a) thinks to pay is a way of better defence.
- b) belongs to a multinational force.
- c) advises pirates to get off commercial ships while patrolling the area.

1.b – According to the text (0.5 points):

- a) Merchant ships spend too much money on armed security teams.
- b) Shipboard defenses always involve heavy weapons.
- c) The faster you travel the more you spend on fuel.

1.c – The more the pirates get to do, the less options most countries and companies have. (Answer 'True' or 'False' AND write the sentence supporting this idea) (0.5 points).

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1.d – Sometimes the area is lit to have a better watch of what may happen. (Answer 'True' or 'False' AND write the sentence supporting this idea) (0.5 points).

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2 Do the following grammar exercises according to the instructions given (2 points):

2.a – Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first one. (0.5 points):

- You should come by train instead of coming by car.

- You'd

2.b – Turn the two sentences into a clause containing 'providing' (0.5 points):

- You can borrow my bike. But please bring it back.

- You can borrow my bike

2.c – Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first one using reported speech (0.5 points):

- Don't do it tomorrow.

- She asked me

2.d – Write the appropriate verb form of the verb in brackets (0.5 points):

- I am used to (to read) at nights.

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3. Identify ONLY FOUR words from their definitions (1 point):

- to inculcate courage.
- money demanded for the return of a captured person.
- the team of men taking charge of a ship or aircraft.
- a person who speaks as the representative of another or others often in a professional capacity.
- something (as a club, knife, or gun) used to injure, defeat, or destroy.
- a flexible tube for carrying liquids.

4. Write a summary of the text of about 30 – 45 words using your own words. (2 points)

5. Write a composition of about 100 – 150 words on ONLY ONE of the following topics (3 points):

- 5.a – What would you do to beat pirates?
- 5.b – Is our economy at risk?



CRITERIOS ESPECÍFICOS DE CORRECCIÓN

OBSERVACIONES:

- 1) La prueba tiene una duración de hora y media.
- 2) No se permiten diccionarios ni otros materiales didácticos.
- 3) Escriban en tinta negra o azul.
- 4) Lean las preguntas con atención antes de responder.

CRITERIOS ESPECÍFICOS DE CORRECCIÓN

- A) **Pregunta 1.** Las cuatro cuestiones de esta sección pretenden evaluar la comprensión del texto. Se evaluará con un máximo de 2 puntos (0.5 puntos por cuestión).
- B) **Pregunta 2.** Tiene como objetivo evaluar los conocimientos morfosintácticos del alumno. Se evaluará con un máximo de 2 puntos (0.5 puntos por cuestión).
- C) **Pregunta 3.** Tiene como objetivo evaluar la riqueza léxica. Se valorará la capacidad de deducir el significado de las palabras en su contexto, así como la habilidad de encontrar en el texto las palabras cuyas definiciones se ofrecen. Se evaluará con un máximo de 1 punto (0.25 puntos por cuestión).
- D) **Pregunta 4.** Se valorará la capacidad de sintetizar las ideas más importantes del texto. Se evaluará con un máximo de 2 puntos.
- E) **Pregunta 5.** La redacción se evaluará con un máximo de 3 puntos. Se valorarán especialmente los siguientes aspectos:
 - La corrección morfosintáctica y ortográfica.
 - La riqueza léxica.
 - Claridad y eficacia en la presentación de ideas; coherencia y cohesión (conectores, organización del texto, etc).