Boy shining shoes [http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/200762.html](http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/200762.html" \t "_blank)

**Setup/Item 1:** shoe shine boy- gets coin (hangs into it because he likes picture of sailor boy (can't read) (he showed initiative by setting up own shoe shine operation because he saw other boys doing it when he got an especially large handout at Christmas, named self)

*Find coin.  What does it say?*<http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/39358.html>

**Item 2:** Sees a bowl in shop window w/pic of boy getting uniform, since store doesn’t look busy (only a lady and her maid), bold enough to go in and ask merchant what it's about, he’s cranky, “buy something it get out;”

*Find bowl with image of putting on new clothes*.  [http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/4207.html](http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/4207.html" \t "_blank) *Why do you think he is doing that? Who is the woman?*

**Item 3:** As boy is walking away, lady’s servant comes after him, explains lady sent her and what “Maritime Society” means.  If he is interested, lady would like him to call at kitchen entrance tomorrow and her staff will help him inquire about a place (can't sleep, so excited!) He arrives, is shown into kitchen, asked to wait, intimidated by grand house-sees painting commemorating a battle and wonders what that's about

*What is happening in this picture?* [link to painting]

**Item 4:** voice behind him (kitchen servant) starts to explain what it depicts.  Boy tries not to grin like an idiot again - it sounds so exciting to him - shown into manager's office where he meets manager of household and a man from the society (both men are the no nonsense, but fair type), interrogated by man from society as to whether has anyone who can sponsor him and about character - boy fudges age/ man is okay with that, satisfied boy is friendless but of good character, starts to write something on paper and tells boy to show up at docked ship on Wednesday and be ready to go by first chimes of day with that paper (guards it with his life and never lets it out if his sight, comforting crinkle under shirt while he works shining shoes in intervening days)

*Help him find training ship*. [http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/201426.html](http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/201426.html" \t "_blank)

**Item 5:** shows up to training ship one gets clothes and begins his training (work in food allotment info? Or some part if collection that talks about sailor food? He gets good food for first time)- ship lieutenant notices his interest in log book and instruments, starts to teach him letters as incentive to finish his work (research- was literacy taught it would this be perused individually?) one day master asked him to run check log to are what last year’s weather was in that day, boy is nervous but does as told (doesn't know if he's good enough at it)

*What does the entry for [date] say?* [Put link to logbook here]

**Item 6:** Boy realizes he has grown so good he can sound it out and has to remind self not to grin like an idiot as he runs to tell the master (smiles but can tell he's proud) - four years fly past, master's nephew has just received a position on a navy ship and is looking for a good boy, recommended out boy (glad for himself, but most proud to have done his master proud enough to recommend him) – Nephew takes after his uncle and is good to him – boy is excited to help keep nephew's equipment in good repair/ condition – has some strange looking equipment

*What is this instrument used for?* <http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/43663.html>

**Item 7:** Boy learns how to use, when someone I ship makes bad calculation, fears they will be thrown off course, tells nephew and points out evidence by recalculating (privately- knows chain of command!), nephew reports phrased as concern, turns out he's right, is a good guy and gives buy credit- War is on the horizon! – Boy is asked into captain’s office one day – nervous because nephew is there too. Has he done something wrong? Captain hands him a uniform. “It’s a hand-me-down, but it will have to do for now. There’s a war on!”

*What sort of uniform has the boy been handed?* <http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/556363.html>

He had been made an officer! Not bad for a boy from the streets who would have had no future without the Maritime Society! Ends will him seeing Nelson (his hero!) before heading off to Trafalgar (nervous and feeling responsible for his men but, again, trying to hide grinning like an idiot).

Random crap (images)

Images of boys (not on display)

[http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/129101.html](http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/129101.html" \t "_blank)

[http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/144833.html](http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/144833.html" \t "_blank)

[http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/129102.html](http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/129102.html" \t "_blank)

[http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/39073.html](http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/39073.html" \t "_blank) - not on display, but a maritime society commemorative medal

[http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/128016.html](http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/128016.html" \t "_blank)

[http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/200762.html](http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/200762.html" \t "_blank)

[http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/12568.html](http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/12568.html" \t "_blank) - older boy- teen

[http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/129105.html](http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/129105.html" \t "_blank)