

## CHAPTER 1

### Comprehension

#### 1 Decide if the following sentences are True or False. Write T or F in the boxes.

1. Ishmael arrived in New Bedford in order to take part in the whaling business. ☐
2. At first, Ishmael was afraid of Queequeg. ☐
3. Queequeg was collecting real human heads. ☐
4. When Ishmael jumped out of bed, the harpooner attacked him. ☐
5. Ishmael and Queequeg decided to go on a whaling trip together. ☐

#### 2 Choose a, b or c to complete the following sentences.

1. Ishmael spent the night in New Bedford because
  - a. he changed his mind about the trip.
  - b. he had no money for the ferry.
  - c. the ferry left without him.
2. Ishmael had to share a room with Queequeg because
  - a. there were no rooms left in the inn.
  - b. he couldn't afford a whole room.
  - c. he wanted to meet the harpooner.
3. Queequeg had just returned from
  - a. New Zealand.
  - b. Rokovoko.
  - c. Manhattan.
4. Queequeg reassured Ishmael that he wouldn't
  - a. steal from him.
  - b. make fun of him.
  - c. hurt him.
5. Queequeg gave Ishmael
  - a. all his belongings.
  - b. a small wooden figure.
  - c. half of his money.

### Vocabulary

#### 3 Complete the following sentences with the correct form of the words in the box.

harpooners    grunt    blacksmith    landlord    pitch    light

1. When I asked him about my wallet, he didn't answer, he just \_\_\_\_\_ behind his newspaper.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ use spears with long ropes in order to hunt whales.
3. It was \_\_\_\_\_ black in the cave and we didn't have a torch, so we couldn't see anything.
4. It is a comfortable, brightly \_\_\_\_\_ room with nice furniture and a big window.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ made horseshoes out of iron.
6. Fortunately the \_\_\_\_\_ let them have the house at a low rent.

#### 4 Find the words or phrases in Chapter 1 which mean the same as:

1. smiled widely \_\_\_\_\_ (page 6)
2. something you can pay for \_\_\_\_\_ (page 5)
3. the fat of sea animals \_\_\_\_\_ (page 4)
4. looking at something or someone \_\_\_\_\_ (page 5)
5. a group of people with the same race, beliefs and language \_\_\_\_\_ (page 10)
6. everything a man has in his possession \_\_\_\_\_ (page 11)
7. ate hungrily without properly chewing the food \_\_\_\_\_ (page 6)
8. without really wanting to \_\_\_\_\_ (page 6)

### Follow-up activities

#### 5 Discuss.

1. What do you think are the advantages and disadvantages of going on a whaling trip? Would you be able to spend time at sea?
2. What do you know about whaling? How popular is it today?
3. Would you ever share a room with a stranger if you had to?
4. Whales are large sea animals which are endangered. What other endangered species do you know of? Why is it important to protect them?
5. Do you think that the harpooner is a trustworthy person after all? What do you think will happen next?

#### 6 Imagine that you are Peter Coffin, the owner of the inn. Write a page in your diary about Ishmael's first night at the inn and his meeting with Queequeg. (120-140 words)