

How to Ace High-Stakes Tests History

Given how much crew endured in their lives at sea, daring to mutiny must have come from an even more powerful force.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE STANDARD: LIVING CONDITIONS DEPEND ON MANY VARIABLES alpl

Studying the real conditions of a circumstance is necessary to understand the lives of the people who endure them.

Research can cull events/data from a standard format (like logbooks) to identify patterns (e.g., just how dangerous whaling was.)

Research can cull data to provide a powerful weight understanding.

Read both selections:

1) MASTER BEDTIME TALE: DEEP SIX THE OPALS OR MUTINY

2) From the LIFE ON A WHALESHIP (below) [Website of The New Bedford Whaling Museum](#)
[permission being sought]

[1] A collection of logbooks analyzed by historian Stuart Sherman contains details of "castaways, mutinies, desertions, floggings, women stowaways, drunkenness, illicit shore leave experiences, scurvy, fever, collisions, fire at sea, stove boats, drownings, hurricanes, earthquakes, tidal waves, shipwrecks, ships struck by lightning, men falling from the masthead, hostile natives, barratry [fraud by a captain or crew at the expense of the shipowners], brutal skippers, escape from *Confederate raiders* [emphasis added], hard luck voyages and ships crushed by ice." Living with accidents, vermin, and punishment: Rats, cockroaches, bedbugs, and fleas were facts of life, perhaps because of the oil and blood that were not removed from the decks by scrubbing.

[2][Punishments included being "put in irons" and flogging (whipping). If a man disobeyed orders or otherwise displeased captain or mate, he suffered one or the other. The "cat-o'-nine-tails" (a whip of nine knotted lines) was often used. It was painful for the crewman who experienced it, and frightening for others to watch.

Using both readings, answer the questions that follow.

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Many of the conditions described in paragraphs one and two happened to people on board Chase's last voyage and others like it. Some sailors experienced (or had) grievous punishments (after the mutiny one assumes in particular). And yet, they were willing to mutiny given certain punishment.

Compose a coherent [interesting] essay properly using textual evidence in support.

Given how much crew endured in their lives at sea, daring to mutiny must have come from an even more powerful force. What was that force and its influence? What other event in history that you know of is similar to this? Why?

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Captain Chase's boat, The Hector, was burned to the waterline along with three other boats by a Confederate raider, the Shenandoah. This occurred in the South Pacific, at Ponope Island at the very end of the Civil War.

Using on-line research options provided, what can you find out about this story or about the more general context? Document your findings (make your "learning visible)."

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Annie was fifteen years a whaling. We know from her tales that she experienced an earthquake in Peru, was blown to the shore of Africa in a gale, was unable to “set foot on any small islands” for fear of being kidnapped, and knew hurricanes so well that she could sense them coming when no one else had any idea. We also know that she could not help but be aware of and endured crew’s punishments (and was raised far too strictly herself). *Compose a coherent essay properly using textual evidence to support your ideas.* Should children have been allowed on whaling ships?

Please answer the question, below, in no more than three succinct, full sentences. Does knowing more about the real conditions of the crew help you to understand selection 1 better? Why or why not?