

## Pirates Past and Present!

Playing pirates can be fun, but what is the modern reality?

### Student Introduction

- ▶ It seems as if pirates have been around for ever, but are they really a thing of the past?
- ▶ Now that you have visited Pirate Cove in Blackgang Chine, you are going to research what it means to be a modern-day pirate.



Have you ever considered what a modern-

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criminal activity which has involved the demand of a ransom?

This task will challenge you to think about all of these issues.

### Have you heard the news?

In the last few years, many Somali pirates have hijacked ships, taken hostages and demanded high ransoms for the people who they are holding captive.

Many people that move through the seas near Somalia are afraid of being boarded, robbed, or killed. They need protection from naval forces (see the photo on the left).



HMS Montrose on Counter Piracy Operations in the Gulf of Aden, October 2010. Photo: POA(Phot) Terry Seward/MOD

You will need to find out about modern-day pirates and the sort of activity that they undertake in order to generate an income. Why do they take such extreme action?

Are they the same as the pirates of the past?



## TASK

You are going to script and present a scene from a news interview, in which you will ask questions of a modern-day pirate.

- ▶ Firstly, you need to consider what a modern-day pirate actually is. What might people's perceptions of these people be?
- ▶ Next, you will need to watch the short film *Fishing Without Nets* which tells the story of a pirate ambush from the perspective of a Somali pirate. You will find out what drives a person to become involved in piracy and perhaps consider things from a different perspective.
- ▶ You will then need to write a script, detailing the questions from the chat-show host and the answers from the Somali pirate (shown in the *Fishing Without Nets* film).

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- ✓ The reasons why the pirate was driven to such lengths.
- ✓ How he might justify his reasons for acting in the way he did. (Remember that he will need to use emotive language so that people will empathise with him).
- ✓ How (as the interviewer) you could ask challenging questions. What are the tough questions you really need to ask?
- ✓ You will film the action so that you can reflect on your performance (so this task will require you to work in groups of 3 or 4).
- ✓ It is unlikely that they would be in the same room in a real situation such as this so you will need to present your interview in the style of a video-link with a split screen (although you may, if you wish, have it as a face-to-face scenario).

