

The CLIMB

by Wendell Riley

1 “Grandpa, look!” I cried. “It’s a ship!” I could hardly believe my eyes. There was a huge ship with tall sails, far out at sea. We waved our arms and shouted, “Help! Help!”

2 We had been stranded on the island for weeks. I was out fishing with Grandpa one day when the weather suddenly changed. A storm blew our fishing boat off course and onto a rocky island. Grandpa steered the best he could, landing us on the shore. But our boat was ruined. We had no way back to the little seaside town we called home.

3 The huge ship was the first we’d seen—and it was sailing right past us! “It’s no use, Sara,” Grandpa said. “They can’t see us.”

4 “But they could if I was up there,” I said. I pointed to the top of a high, rocky hill. Grandpa looked worried, but he knew there was no other way. I had to climb the rocks quickly but carefully—and not look down! When I got to the top, I shouted, and flashed a small mirror. I was about to give up, when a light flashed back. We were saved!

Close Reader Habits

What questions can you ask about the story? **Underline** the details that help you answer your questions.



I'm going to reread the story carefully and look for details that tell who, where, what, and why.

Think

- 1 Where does the story take place?
 - A on a huge ship at sea
 - B on Grandpa's fishing boat
 - C on a small rocky island
 - D in a little seaside town

- 2 What causes Sara and Grandpa's fishing boat to crash? Choose the sentence from the story that answers this question.
 - A "We had been stranded on the island for weeks."
 - B "A storm blew our fishing boat off course and onto a rocky island."
 - C "We had no way back to the little seaside town we called home."
 - D "When I got to the top, I shouted, and flashed a small mirror."

Talk

- 3 Think of a *how* or *why* question about the story. Ask your partner the question. Together, find the answer in the story and discuss why it is important.

Write

- 4 **Short Response** Read this sentence from the story.

I was about to give up, when a light flashed back.

Write a question that the sentence could answer. Then choose another sentence and write a question for that sentence. Write your answer in the space on page 99.

HINT Review the sentence in the story to use to write the question.



Write Use the space below to write your answer to the question on page 97.

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Check Your Writing

- Did you read the question carefully?
- Can you say the question in your own words?
- Did you use proof from the text in your answer?
- Are your ideas in a good, clear order?
- Did you answer in full sentences?
- Did you check your spelling, capital letters, and periods?

