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## Reading

► Read the selection and answer each question.

### Pierre de la Mer

<sup>1</sup> If you've heard of the Atlantic Ocean, you've surely heard of the famous sailor, Pierre de la Mer. Why, he crossed that great blue carpet so many times he just about wore a hole in it!

<sup>2</sup> Once when Pierre was a baby, his mama took him down to the sea for a bath. He wiggled away and swam way out toward the deep. His poor mama was certain he was lost, but he'd come riding in on the back of a whale; for you see, he could talk to the sea creatures. In fact, he spoke so sweetly that every creature—on land or sea—was pleased to do anything he asked.

<sup>3</sup> As a young man, he sweet-talked his way onto the crew of a ship; and pretty soon, the ship set out on a voyage across the Atlantic to fish in the waters off Nova Scotia. At first, the other sailors didn't think much of the skinny lad who didn't know the bow from the stern. Every time Pierre pulled the wrong rope or raised the wrong sail, he turned red as a garden tomato.

<sup>4</sup> One evening, the ship passed a dark hump in the water. "Funny," said the captain, "that island wasn't there before." Then the "island" started to move! Two enormous yellow eyes rose from the water and glared at the ship before disappearing below the surface. Then, in the blink of an eye, the ship was gripped by a tangle of huge, snake-like arms.

<sup>5</sup> "It's the kraken!" shouted the captain. "We're done for!"

<sup>6</sup> Terror swept through the crew, but Pierre stayed calm. He dove down into the sea until he found the wide, staring eyes of the kraken. Then he used his sweet-talking tongue to make a deal. If the kraken would let the ship go, the sailors would give it all the fish it could eat. You see, Pierre knew the kraken wouldn't bite the hand that fed it. One of the kraken's arms curled around Pierre and lifted him safely back onto the deck, where the sailors cheered in celebration. All the way across the ocean, the kraken followed the ship like a puppy, eating part of the catch every day.

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7 When the ship finally approached the Bay of Fundy, the fog was so thick, the captain was afraid he'd crash into the rocks. So Pierre hitched the kraken to the fog like an ox to a plow, and that faithful beast dragged the fog right out of the bay.

8 After two days without catching a single fish, Pierre rode the kraken deep into the bay. They pulled up a big rock that looked like a bathtub plug, and the bay emptied out so fast the fish were left jumping on the sand. The sailors gathered them all up. Then Pierre and the kraken put the rock back where they found it. Soon the bay filled up again. A dozen more times, they drained the bay and filled it up. When they had as many fish as the ship could hold, they turned around and went right on back across the Atlantic.

9 The kraken still goes back to drain the bay and catch its dinner. That's why the Bay of Fundy's tides go out so fast and come in so high.

1 Read the sentence from paragraph 1.

*Why, he crossed that great blue carpet so many times he just about wore a hole in it!*

What does the figurative language in this sentence help the reader understand about Pierre?

- (A) He is famous as a sailor all over the world.
- (B) He is growing weary of traveling the ocean.
- (C) He has a great deal of experience sailing the ocean.
- (D) He has been traveling the world since he was a baby.

2 Read the sentence from paragraph 3.

*Every time Pierre pulled the wrong rope or raised the wrong sail, he turned red as a garden tomato.*

What does "turned red as a garden tomato" in this sentence show about Pierre's feelings?

- (A) He is angry.
- (B) He is brave.
- (C) He is excited.
- (D) He is ashamed.

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- 3 Read the sentence from paragraph 4.

*Two enormous yellow eyes rose from the water and glared at the ship before disappearing below the surface.*

Read the analogy.

*Terror is to calm as enormous is to \_\_\_\_\_.*

Which word best completes the analogy?

- Ⓐ tiny
  - Ⓑ clear
  - Ⓒ silent
  - Ⓓ shiny
- 4 Read the sentence from paragraph 6.

*You see, Pierre knew the kraken wouldn't bite the hand that fed it.*

What does "wouldn't bite the hand that fed it" tell the reader about the kraken?

- Ⓐ It will not hurt anyone who helps it.
  - Ⓑ It will follow the ship across the ocean.
  - Ⓒ It will not eat more fish than it deserves.
  - Ⓓ It will help the sailors to catch more fish.
- 5 Based on the suffix *-ion*, which means "act," what does celebration mean in paragraph 6?
- Ⓐ a shelter from harm
  - Ⓑ the bow of a ship
  - Ⓒ fear and wonder
  - Ⓓ praise and joy

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- 6 What does Pierre do to change the other sailors' opinions of him?
- Ⓐ He learns the difference between bow and stern.
  - Ⓑ He makes a deal with the kraken to save the ship.
  - Ⓒ He sweetly talks his way onto the crew of the ship.
  - Ⓓ He rides all the way to shore on the back of a whale.
- 7 Tall tales usually have characters who are larger than life and solve problems in an unusual way. Explain how Pierre fits the character type found in tall tales. Use details from the story to support your answer.

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## Writing

► Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

*Byron wrote a story about helping out a neighbor. Read the first part of the story and look for any changes he should make. When you finish reading, answer the questions that follow.*

### The Alpaca Project

(1) Kathy, who is my neighbor, raises alpacas. (2) What are alpacas? (3) They are hooved animals whose hair can be cut off and spun into thread, just like sheep's wool. (4) Kathy asks me to take care of the alpacas when she goes out of town. (5) I am always happy to help out.

(6) First thing in the morning, I have to feed them and give them water. (7) Kathy keeps the alpacas' grain in a metal can that closes very tightly. (8) Once I forgot to tighten the lid, and the next morning I found a chipmunk inside filling its cheeks with grain.

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1 What is the relative pronoun in sentence 1?

- Ⓐ Kathy
- Ⓑ neighbor
- Ⓒ who
- Ⓓ alpacas

2 What is the relative adverb in sentence 4?

- Ⓐ asks
- Ⓑ me
- Ⓒ care
- Ⓓ when

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3 What is the relative pronoun in sentence 7?

- Ⓐ that
- Ⓑ closes
- Ⓒ very
- Ⓓ tightly

# Answer Key: Module 7, Week 1 Assessment

Item Number	Correct Answer	Module, Week, Program Skill	Depth of Knowledge
<b>READING</b>			
1	C	M7W1: Comprehension: Figurative Language	2
2	D	M7W1: Comprehension: Figurative Language	2
3	A	M7W1: Vocabulary Strategy: Analogies	2
4	A	M7W1: Comprehension: Adages and Proverbs	2
5	D	M7W1: Generative Vocabulary: Suffix <i>-ion</i>	2
6	B	M7W1: Comprehension: Characters	1
7	See rubric on p. R1.	M7W1: Comprehension: Characters	3
	Sample two-point response: Pierre is larger than life in that he has special abilities from an early age and he performs monumental deeds. As an infant, Pierre rides a whale, and as a young man, he charms the kraken. He uses the kraken to tow fog from the Bay of Fundy and drain the bay to catch fish.		
<b>WRITING</b>			
1	C	M7W1: Grammar: Relative Pronouns and Adverbs	2
2	D	M7W1: Grammar: Relative Pronouns and Adverbs	2
3	A	M7W1: Grammar: Relative Pronouns and Adverbs	2

# Constructed-Response Rubric

Points	Description
2	<b>2 points</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Response provides a <b>complete and correct</b> explanation of, or answer to, the question.</li><li>• Response includes clear and specific explanations, interpretations, and opinions of the text based on effective comprehension, inference, analysis, evaluation, and/or comparison.</li><li>• Response is supported with details from the text.</li></ul>
1	<b>1 point</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Response provides a <b>partially complete and correct</b> explanation of, or answer to, the question.</li><li>• Response attempts to include explanations, interpretations, and opinions of the text, but they may be unclear or unsubstantiated, and they show limitation in comprehension, inference, analysis, evaluation, and/or comparison.</li><li>• Response is supported with limited details (in quantity or quality) from the text.</li></ul>
0	<b>0 points</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Response is incorrect, irrelevant, or not provided.</li></ul>