

Vocabulary Workshop® Tools for Excellence

Differentiated Passages

Grade 10

PASSAGE 1

UNIT 13

Read the following passage, taking note of the **boldface** words and their contexts. These words are among those you will be studying in Unit 13. As you complete the exercises in this unit, it may help to refer to the way the words are used below.

Life on the High Seas

<Log>

This is an imaginary log of a sailor aboard the HM Bark *Endeavour* during Captain James Cook's epic 1768–1771 first voyage of discovery in the Pacific Ocean. Captain Cook visited Tahiti and charted New Zealand and the east coast of Australia. Botanists and artists on the *Endeavour* made important records of the people, flora, and fauna of each land.

5 September 1768

Nine days at sea and we are getting our sea legs. Tonight, we dined on salted beef and slabs of cheese, but I fear this is the last of our cheese ration. Ah, for an endless supply instead of what lies ahead: dried meats and—horrors!—cabbage preserved in vinegar. Still, Captain Cook has told us we must eat plenty of this dish to prevent scurvy and to set an example for the crew.

12 December 1768

Thomas, our ship's cat, is **sedate** after a busy day of ratting. His **exuberance**

for his job is an inspiration. He is always cheerful and willing and never seasick. If only that could be said of his shipmates!

21 July 1769

Endless days with no sight of land: We are **infinitesimal** specks on a vast sea. The men are restless due to the relentless and **implacable** boredom. Casks of beer and rum were damaged in last night's storm, and I fear the crew will **imbibe** the contents before long.

10 November 1769

The crew is kept busy with sail and rope repair. I heard Sam Jones grumbling that the breakfast biscuits are full of weevils and not fit to be consumed. I told him the weevils added flavor, but my **innocuous** attempt at humor fell flat.

9 January 1770

Mr. Evans, the quartermaster, is not himself. He harbors **antipathy** to all who question his navigational skills. Perhaps he has eaten bad meat?

6 April 1770

The captain has shown time and again what an **asset** he is to our king and country. Some are fearful of his **stentorian** commands that border on **duress**, but I say he must be forceful to keep order. We want no mutiny here!



Captain James Cook rose through the ranks, from ordinary seaman to legendary commander and explorer.

PASSAGE 1

12 June 1770

Disaster! We are **beset** with troubles. Our ship ran aground on a massive reef and sustained great damage to the hull. Midshipman Munkhouse may have saved us: His idea to plug the holes has worked well as a temporary fix, and we are proceeding north in search of a harbor in which to make more thorough repairs.

3 July 1770

Weeks on land and all signs of **decorum** and discipline in the crew have vanished.

Some good news: We enjoyed tasty fish and greens for dinner—a welcome change from ship's rations. The men sang songs late into the night. As they say, better poor on land than rich at sea.

16 July 1770

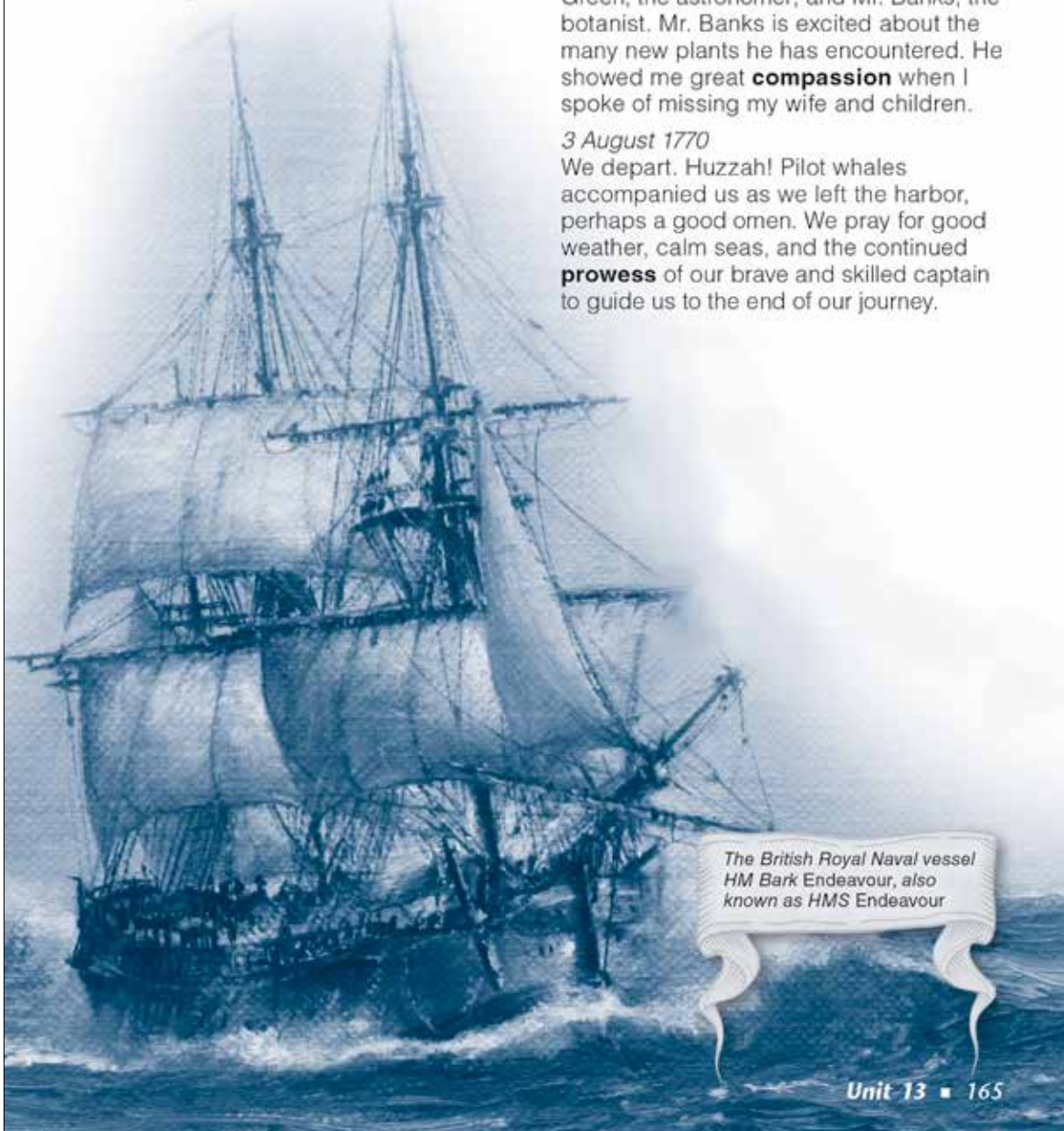
Captain Cook has given us an **ultimatum**: We must complete all necessary repairs and set sail again by early August.

29 July 1770

Dined this evening with the captain; Mr. Green, the astronomer; and Mr. Banks, the botanist. Mr. Banks is excited about the many new plants he has encountered. He showed me great **compassion** when I spoke of missing my wife and children.

3 August 1770

We depart. Huzzah! Pilot whales accompanied us as we left the harbor, perhaps a good omen. We pray for good weather, calm seas, and the continued **prowess** of our brave and skilled captain to guide us to the end of our journey.



The British Royal Naval vessel
HM Bark Endeavour, also
known as HMS Endeavour

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PASSAGE 2

UNIT 13

Read the following passage, taking note of the **boldface** words and their contexts. These words are among those you will be studying in Unit 13. As you complete the exercises in this unit, it may help to refer to the way the words are used below.

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<Log>

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12 December 1768

I fear this is the last of our salted beef and cheese ration. Ah, for an endless supply instead of what lies ahead: dried meats and cabbage preserved in vinegar. Still Captain Cook has told us we must eat plenty of this dish to prevent scurvy. Thomas the cat is **sedate** after a busy day of ratting. His **exuberance** for his job is an inspiration. If only that could be said of his shipmates.



Captain James Cook rose through the ranks, from ordinary seaman to legendary commander and explorer.

21 July 1769

We are **infinitesimal** specks on a vast sea. The men are restless due to the relentless and **implacable** boredom. Casks were damaged in last night's storm. I fear the crew will **imbibe** the contents before long.

10 November 1769

Sam Jones grumbled that the biscuits are full of weevils. He says they are not fit to be consumed. I told him the weevils add flavor. My **innocuous** attempt at humor fell flat.

9 January 1770

Mr. Evans is our quartermaster. He harbors **antipathy** to all who question his navigational skills. Perhaps he has eaten bad meat?

6 April 1770

The captain has shown what an **asset** he is to our king and country. Some are fearful of his **stentorian** commands that border on **duress**. He must be forceful to keep order. We want no mutiny here.

12 June 1770

We are **beset** with troubles. Our ship ran aground on a massive reef and sustained great damage to the hull. Midshipman

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PASSAGE 2

Munkhouse's idea to plug the holes has worked as a temporary fix. We are proceeding north in search of a harbor. There we can make more thorough repairs.

3 July 1770

Weeks on land and all signs of **decorum** and discipline in the crew have vanished. We enjoyed tasty fish and greens for

dinner. The men sang songs late into the night. As they say, better poor on land than rich at sea.

16 July 1770

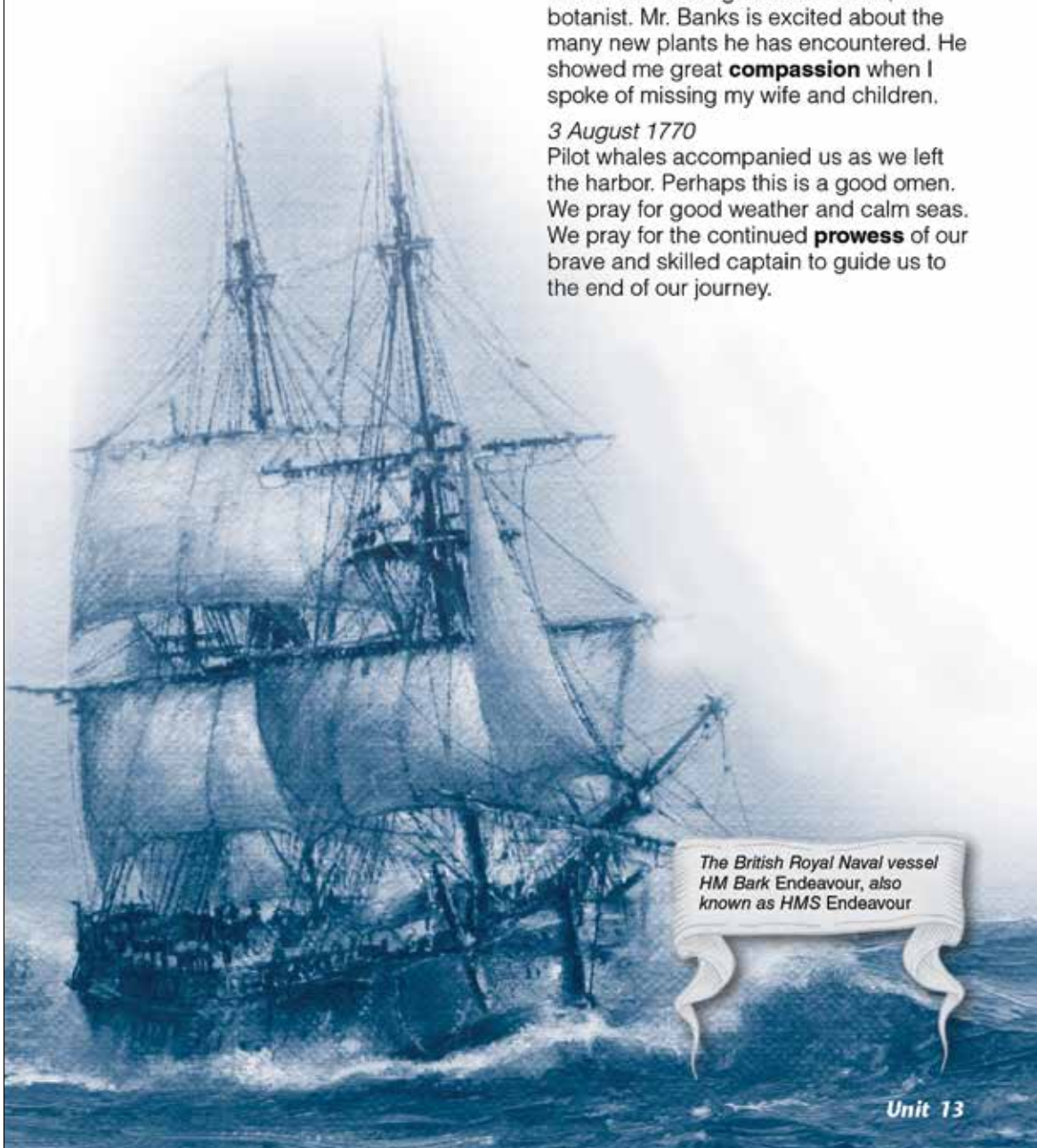
Captain Cook has given us an **ultimatum**. We must complete all necessary repairs. We set sail again by early August.

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Dined this evening with Mr. Banks, the botanist. Mr. Banks is excited about the many new plants he has encountered. He showed me great **compassion** when I spoke of missing my wife and children.

3 August 1770

Pilot whales accompanied us as we left the harbor. Perhaps this is a good omen. We pray for good weather and calm seas. We pray for the continued **prowess** of our brave and skilled captain to guide us to the end of our journey.



*The British Royal Naval vessel
HM Bark Endeavour, also
known as HMS Endeavour.*

Unit 13