

Short Answer Questions:

1. A ship is a lot larger than a car, for one thing. Tankers can be up to 1,000 feet long! There are many engines propelling it, in contrast to a car that has only one engine. Plus a ship is affected by things like the wind, tide, and currents.

2. The turning basin is the area in the harbor where the big ship has room to turn around.

3. The harbor pilot meets the ship at the beginning of the channel, and becomes the captain while bringing it safely to port.

4. The harbor pilot has to board the ship on a rope ladder. He could fall between the boats, or worse. He also has to bring the ships in during stormy weather, which makes it more difficult to board the ship.

5. Possible answers include wood chips, phosphate (used to make fertilizer, bananas, frozen chickens.

6. If the ship moved out of the channel, it could get stuck on the surrounding land and break apart. If it were carrying oil, the oil would spill into the ocean and onto the land, and could destroy the surrounding wildlife.

7. Wind, tide, and currents.

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 1. | d |
| 2. | b |
| 3. | a |
| 4. | a |
| 5. | a |
| 6. | c |
| 7. | a |
| 8. | b |
| 9. | a |
| 10. | c |

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Ports & Pilots

K870

Worksheet

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

1. One of the first ports in the United States was located where?
 - a. Arkansas
 - b. Michigan
 - c. Idaho
 - d. New York
2. How many ports does the state of North Carolina have?
 - a. One
 - b. Two
 - c. Three
 - d. Four
3. Why do harbor pilots need a pilot boat?
 - a. To carry them out to meet the big ship
 - b. To carry them fishing
4. What does the sea buoy mark?
 - a. The beginning of the channel
 - b. Where the pilot is supposed to board the ship
 - c. Where the seagulls like to rest
5. How does the harbor pilot board the ship?
 - a. He climbs up a rope ladder while the ship is moving
 - b. The ship stops, and the pilot climbs up a rope ladder
 - c. An airplane drops the pilot onto the ship
6. What colors are the channel markers?
 - a. Blue and yellow
 - b. Purple and green
 - c. Red and green
 - d. Blue and red
7. Pilots use what word to say “right” when they bring a ship through the channel?
 - a. Starboard
 - b. Port
 - c. Right-on
 - d. Midships

8. Pilots use what word to say “left” when they bring a ship through the channel? (Hint: It has the same number of letters as the word “left”.)
 - a. Starboard
 - b. Port
 - c. Punt
 - d. Midships
9. The job of a harbor pilot used to be passed down through families.
 - a. True
 - b. False
10. A channel is:
 - a. The area where cargo is unloaded in the port
 - b. The area where ships turn around
 - c. The area where the water is the deepest in the harbor

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. Why is driving a ship harder than driving a car?
2. What is the turning basin in the port?
3. Describe the job of a harbor pilot.
4. Why is the job of a harbor pilot dangerous sometimes?
5. What are some of the cargo items that come into a port? List two that you saw in the video.
6. Why is it important for a ship to stay in the channel? What would happen to the wildlife, such as turtles and fish, if a ship carrying oil ran outside of the channel?
7. What are some of the factors that affect the ship while it moves through the channel?

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY

Illustrate the principle of water displacement by placing a toy wooden boat, a brick, or a large rock in a bucket of water. Mark the water level in the bucket before placing the boat in it. Then mark how much the water has risen.