**Action Verbs and Verbs of Being**  
**With Pirates...**

Reading Level 2

**Directions:** Read each of the following sentences. **Determine which word is functioning as a verb.** Circle your answer.

1. Captain Pete adjusted the curved brim of his tricorn hat.
   a) curved  
   b) brim  
   c) adjusted  
   d) tricorn

2. Rex the Red was tired after a long day of forcing treacherous dogs to walk the plank.
   a) was  
   b) treacherous  
   c) tired  
   d) long

3. Captain Carly called the pirate in the purple shirt a "beardless yeller belly," which caused him to run away in tears.
   a) tears  
   b) purple  
   c) in  
   d) called

4. Mary May Moonshot never missed a target with her flintlock musket.
   a) Moonshot  
   b) target  
   c) missed  
   d) never

5. First Mate Murphy left his spare hook in the crow's nest of his pirate ship.
   a) hook  
   b) left  
   c) spare  
   d) nest

6. The onion soup tasted watery and bitter to the pirate with the peg leg.
   a) tasted  
   b) to  
   c) peg leg  
   d) bitter

7. First Mate Murphy was ashamed that he didn't know the steps to the popular pirate dance.
   a) ashamed  
   b) was  
   c) dance  
   d) steps
8. Rex the Red and the pirate with the purple shirt were lonely and weepy during the slow dances at Captain Carly's party.
   a) dances  b) lonely  
   c) weepy  d) were 

9. Mary May Moonshot takes classes on leadership at the community college.
   a) leadership  b) at  
   c) takes  d) college 

10. First Mate Murphy heard the Captain's orders but felt that opening the dance floor with a slow song would spoil the festive mood.
    a) orders  b) heard  
    c) dance  d) festive 

11. Rex the Red is the scourge of the Seven Seas and the sound of his name terrifies children and men alike.
    a) is  b) of  
    c) scourge  d) alike 

12. Captain Carly loves the taste of fresh ham and root beer from a dirty mug.
    a) taste  b) from  
    c) loves  d) fresh 

13. Rex the Red had bits of food in the twists of his beard and it made the men hungry 
    a) had  b) twists  
    c) in  d) bits 

14. First Mate Murphy was weary of Captain Carly's long rants about pirate boots. 
    a) rants  b) about 
    c) weary  d) was 

15. The pirate with the purple shirt saw the signal from the abandoned lighthouse.
    a) signal  b) saw 
    c) lighthouse  d) from 

16. The angry sea almost tossed the wobbly First Mate Murphy off the ship during the storm. 
    a) wobbly  b) storm 
    c) tossed  d) angry
17. I am upset about missing the sword fight between Captain Carly and the pirate with the red shirt.
   a) between  b) am  c) fight  d) upset

18. The pirate with the peg leg gave Captain Carly a whip for her birthday, much to the dismay of the other pirates.
   a) for  b) whip  c) birthday  d) gave

19. The smell of fresh ham tempted Captain Carly to board the cruise ship as it passed.
   a) smell  b) tempted  c) cruise  d) fresh

20. Mary May Moonshot thought that the lyrics to the pirate shanty were too explicit to sing at a children's party.
   a) party  b) shanty  c) thought  d) too

21. The pirate in the purple shirt swung from the sail of the cruise ship with a knife in his teeth.
   a) sail  b) in  c) cruise  d) swung

22. First Mate Murphy used his hook to hang Christmas decorations along the ship's hull.
   a) used  b) hook  c) decorations  d) to

23. First Mate Murphy and Mary May Moonshot were bloated with ham and pineapple.
   a) were  b) bloated  c) party  d) with

24. Captain Carly ordered the scurvy dogs to polish her boots before she ran them through.
   a) before  b) scurvy  c) ordered  d) them
25. According to the legend, Captain Carly lost her parrot in the belly of a whale.
   a) parrot b) lost
c) belly d) in

26. It was funny when First Mate Murphy slipped on the ship's deck and landed with his back on the ship's wheel.
   a) deck b) funny
c) was d) when

27. The crew seemed anxious when Captain Carly brought up the subject of bathing.
   a) crew b) anxious
c) subject d) seemed

28. Pete the Pale and Rex the Red are stranded on a tiny deserted island.
   a) tiny b) on
c) deserted d) are

29. Some say that Captain Carly is the best dressed pirate in the Caribbean.
   a) dressed b) is
c) best d) in

30. Early in the morning, First Mate Murphy fishes off the side of the boat with a special hook.
   a) fishes b) special
c) hook d) off