

# The Pearl

John Steinbeck

## A Before Reading

1 In the story, Kino and Juana's life is suddenly changed by money. What do you think are the positive and negative effects of receiving a large amount of money?

2 a Put the words in order to make questions. The first one has been done for you.

1 in / what / is / story / the / set / country ? What country is the story set in?

2 name / Kino's / was / wife's / what ? \_\_\_\_\_

3 have / children / many / they / did / how ? \_\_\_\_\_

4 Kino / did / what / do ? \_\_\_\_\_

5 life / what / his / like / was ? \_\_\_\_\_

6 did / find / what / he ? \_\_\_\_\_

7 after / happy / feel / did / finding / he / it ? \_\_\_\_\_

b Read the introductory note on page 6 of the book and then answer the questions from a. Again, the first one has been done for you.

1 *Mexico*

2

3

4

5

6

7

3 Match the words to the things in the picture. The first one is done for you.



an oyster \_\_\_\_\_

rope \_\_\_\_\_

waves 1

a basket \_\_\_\_\_

a stone \_\_\_\_\_

## B While Reading

4 a Read the statements about *The Pearl*. Write T (True) or F (False).

a	A tracker killed Coyotito by accident.	
b	Coyotito was stung by a spider.	
c	Juana thought the pearl was unlucky.	
d	Kino and Juana couldn't see the trackers from the cave.	
e	Kino and Juana returned to the village and threw the pearl in the sea.	
f	Kino became violent towards his wife.	
g	Kino dreamed of an education for Coyotito and a rifle for himself.	
h	Kino shot the attacker by the water.	
i	Kino thought he could get more money for the pearl.	
j	People found out about Kino's pearl quickly.	
k	The buyers planned to offer Kino a fair price for the pearl.	
l	The doctor saw Coyotito on their first visit.	
m	The doctor wanted money to treat Coyotito.	
n	The doctor was happy to help the Mexican-Indians.	
o	The seaweed made Coyotito better.	
p	Three bad things happened before Kino ran away.	

b Now put the correct versions of the statements in a in the order the events happened in the story. The first one has been done for you.

1 b	5	9	13
2	6	10	14
3	7	11	15
4	8	12	16

## C After Reading

5 a Imagine that you are a journalist. Write a short article for the newspaper 'La Paz News', reporting the story and saying what happened to Kino and Juana after they returned to the village.

**Start:** *A small boy was killed in a tragic accident yesterday while he and his mother were hiding in a cave...*

b Discuss these questions:

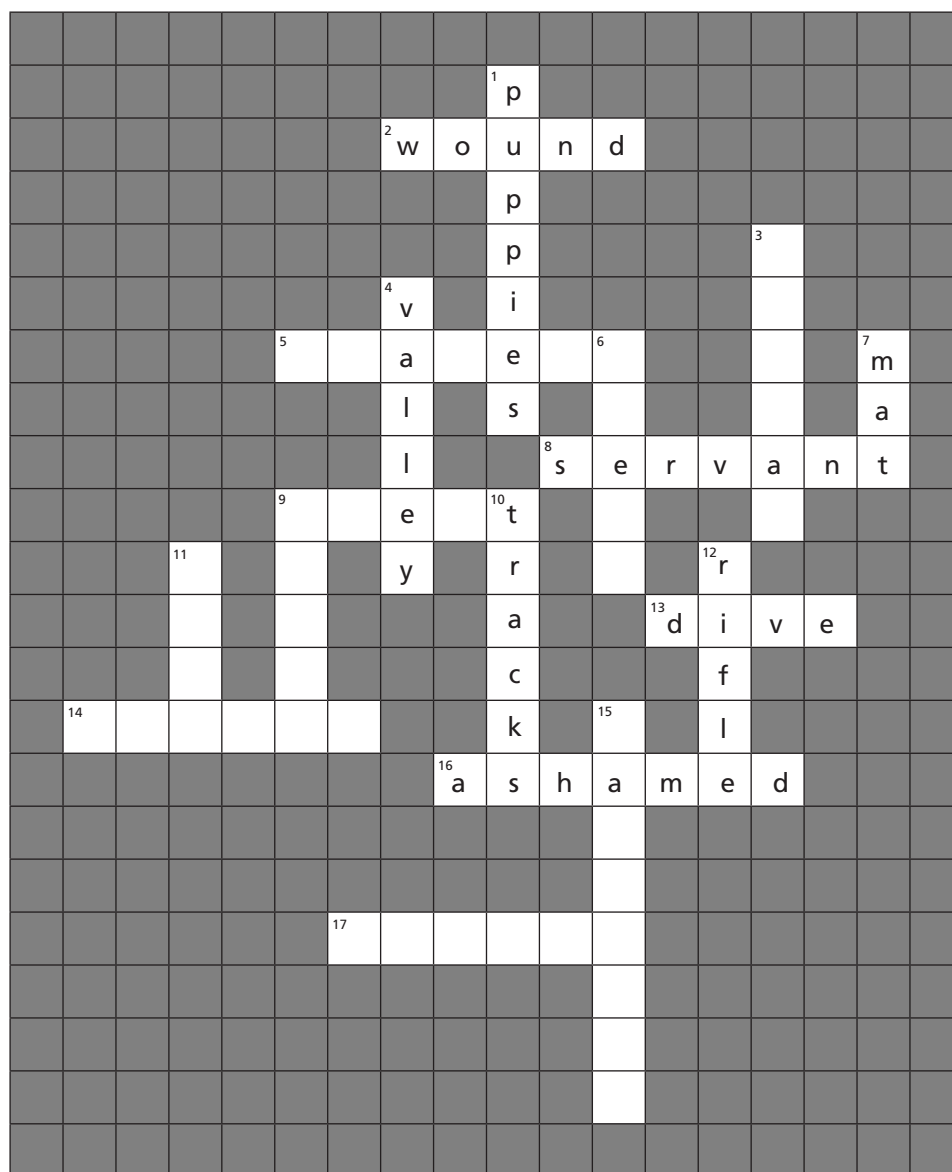
- 1 Do you think the pearl brought Kino bad luck?
- 2 Was Kino greedy or did he want to make his family's life better?
- 3 How did Kino's character change?
- 4 Do you think Kino was right to run away?
- 5 Do you believe in luck?

- 6 Do you have a 'lucky' possession?
- 7 Do you have any 'lucky' routines?
- 8 How would these amounts of money change your life: £500? £5000? £500,000?
- 9 Can money buy happiness?

6 Crossword. Do this exercise with a partner. Student A look at the crossword on this page; Student B look at the crossword on the next page.

**(Student A)**

Complete the crossword by asking your partner questions (Example: *What's 5 across?*). At the same time, explain the words in your crossword to your partner, without saying the actual words.



**(Student B)**

Complete the crossword by asking your partner questions (Example: *What's 1 down?*). At the same time, explain the words in your crossword to your partner, without saying the actual words.

