**Dear mum**

**I hope you and Rosie are keeping well. I’m not sure how long this letter will take to reach you; I’m posting it from one of the islands we’ve stopped off at to shelter from yet another storm. The weather has been particularly bad of late. We just seem to be battling one storm after another which is challenging our strength and resolve. I think I’m finally getting my sea legs though as I haven’t vomited for at least a week now! That’s definitely progress, don’t you think? Seriously though, the weather needs to settle soon as we must catch a decent haul of fish in order to make this trip worthwhile. There’s no coming home until we do.**

**Captain Abrahams is doing an amazing job of looking after me. He keeps me close by and he’s really patient when I make mistakes – which can be quite often! I’m lucky to have him, as mistakes can prove to be fatal out here. The lads are a great bunch too; they pull my leg a little, but I know they don’t mean any harm by it. They do their best to keep me out of trouble and out of harm’s way. They understand how hard it is to be away from home for so long, although they seem so well adjusted now, unlike me. I miss you guys so much. I miss my warm soft bed and I most definitely miss dry land!**

**I’m not complaining though as I know I’ve made the right decision. Grandad was a fisherman; dad was a fisherman, so it must be in the blood, right? I wonder how long it took them to find their sea legs? I wish I could talk to them about it. I like to think that dad would’ve been proud of me. I somehow feel closer to him when I’m out at sea. Silly I know!**

**Anyway, I must go now as we’ve finished collecting provisions and we are about to set sail again. Always know that I am doing my best and I will try to stay safe. Pray the weather improves for us.**

**Love you both so much, Stan x**

* **Do you think Stan is upset with the lads for pulling his leg? Explain your answer using evidence from the text.**
* **Why do you think Stan decided to be a fisherman? Explain your answer using evidence from the text.**
* **Do you think this is a dangerous job? Explain your answer using evidence from the text.**
* **What do you think has happened to Stan’s father? Explain your answer using evidence from the text.**
* **In what ways does he try and reassure his mother? Explain your answer using evidence from the text.**