

## **Vocabulary**

### **English**

leaders  
mercenaries  
harbour

### **German**

Anführer  
Geschäftsleute  
Hafen

### **Spanish**

los jefes  
mercenarios  
puerto

## **Summary of the story “Stoertebeker” by Michael Moellers**

### Part I

The story takes place a long time ago. It is the time of knights, merchants and the Vitalian brotherhood, who are locked in eternal conflict.

One stormy day the ship of the merchant Schoke sails, carrying many barrels of beer, towards England. They think the journey will last two more days and Schoke asks if there is anything worse than a seasick captain when somebody shouts that he is seeing some pirates. The captain sees the ship with the black sail and starts to stutter afraid of Stoertebeker's ship, called Red Devil, the terror of the North Sea. Shortly afterwards they are surrounded by many pirates with swords. As they jump onto the deck Stoertebeker says to his comrades that they should let the seamen choose what happens. He lets them choose between being imprisoned in a barrel or live in liberty like a Vitalian brother. They all choose liberty. Only Schoke shouts at them so Stoertebeker puts him into a barrel and throws him into the sea.

When Stoertebeker sees the beer he is very happy. He opens one of the barrels and toasts to the merchant, who is really furious. They leave the merchant alone and Stoertebeker says that everybody will get the same part of the booty which is a barrel of beer and two pieces of gold. The ship's boy asks what he should do with the beer. Stoertebeker answers that he could sell it in the next harbour which will be Marienhaf.

While the Vitalian brotherhood sails towards Marienhaf the merchant Schoke arrives at the Nikolai canal in the boat of a fisherman who rescued him from the waters of the North Sea. Schoke wants to inform the mayor and the merchants of Hamburg. He says that Stoertebeker has captured his ship and stolen his beer. The mayor wants to fight against the pirates because they have stolen the ships. One of the merchants offers his services to catch Stoertebeker. When the mayor asks how he wants to do that he answers that he has a fast boat named the Coloured Cow which is equipped with cannons and manned by fearless seamen. The only payment he expects is that he becomes a resident of Hamburg.

When the Vitalian brotherhood arrives at the port of Marienhaf they don't have a clue about what happens in Hamburg. Now Stoertebeker sees his girlfriend Alida who wants him to give up being a pirate. He says that he will share some of his booty with the poor and needy first. At sunset a big party begins, which chief Tom Brook gives in honour of the Vitalian brotherhood. While everywhere bonfires are burning the chief thanks Stoertebeker for the beer and everything he has done for the people in Marienhaf. Everyone is celebrating, just Alida is sitting near a fire and worries that one day Stoertebeker will pay for his actions. Stoertebeker tells her that nothing can happen to him because the Duke of Holland has given him the right to capture ships in the North Sea.

The next morning when everybody is still asleep the small ship's boy Fiete cries out that the residents of Hamburg are coming. Stoertebeker hides in a secret chamber in the large and mighty tower.

When the residents of Hamburg arrive none of the Vitalian brotherhood is there. When merchant Schoke sees the empty barrels of beer he shouts that those are his beer barrels and he wants to know where Stoertebeker is. Chief Tom Brook answers that he doesn't know a pirate by the name of Stoertebeker and that they have bought the beer barrels. When one of the merchants asks Alida about Störtebeker she says that he has a letter of marque from the duke and that she doesn't know where he is.

Late that night Alida knocks on the chambers door and Stoertebeker comes out of his hiding place. He gives her his letter of marque and says that she should take it and that he will travel one last time to Helgoland to get his gold. Then he and the Vitalian brotherhood go to a small bay where they hide their ship.

## Part II

When Simon of Utrecht and merchant Schoke arrive back in Hamburg they immediately put up a handsome reward to find out Stoertebeker's hiding place. Shortly afterwards a fisherman called Hein gives them the information that the ship is hidden close to the German island of Helgoland.

Although the fisherman helps them he doesn't get his reward but has to sail to Helgoland together with Simon of Utrecht and merchant Schoke on their ship the Coloured Cow. They want Hein to fill liquid lead into the rudder of Stoertebeker's ship.

Stoertebeker's ship, the Red Evil, is anchored off the coast of Helgoland and the Vitalian brotherhood have been carrying heavy boxes with gold to the Red Devil all day. After the hard work they drink beer till they fell asleep.

At night fisherman Hein is able to fill the liquid lead into the rudder and nobody notices it. In the morning the Vitalian brotherhood are awoken at the sound of shots of cannons. They want to escape but the rudder doesn't work and so Stoertebeker has to give up.

People in Hamburg celebrate the victory of Simon and merchant Schoke. And fisherman Hein doesn't get his reward, but only one piece of gold.

Stoertebeker walks down the ship with tied hands but he holds his head high. Moreover, he says that Simon of Utrecht is not allowed to imprison him and the Vitalian brotherhood because they act on behalf of the Duke. But the merchants of Hamburg don't listen. Stoertebeker and his men are put into the dungeon, a dark and dump cellar, for a long time. Only little Fiete is able to escape. He runs to the princess and tells her about Simon's plan.

The people of Hamburg could not make up their minds how to punish Stoertebecker and his crewmembers. One day Simon comes into the cellar and takes them to the court where they are sentenced to death.

In order to save his life Stoertebeker offers the court a deal and promises to give all his gold to the people of Hamburg if they aren't killed.

Simon of Utrecht leads the Vitalian brotherhood across the Trost Bridge to Grasbrook where they are to be killed. When Stoertebeker kneels before the block and the executioner holds his blade high, the princess Alida jumps out of her hiding place and shows them the proof that Stoertebeker has been acting in the name of the Duke. The princess says that they are not allowed to kill them. Moreover, they will give them the gold and everything will be okay. Now the people of Hamburg have to say what they want.

Simon tells the people of Hamburg that they should tell everybody that the pirate Stoertebeker has been killed so nobody knows he is still alive. Mayor Miles puts the Vitalian brotherhood, Stoertebeker, the Princess and Fiete on a ship without any sails or rudder.

Simon of Utrecht looks for the treasure on Stoertebeker's ship but cannot find anything so he asks a carpenter to chop it up into kindling. When the carpenter is chopping up the ship all the gold of Stoertebeker's treasure comes out of the mast.

Today, nobody knows what happened to Stoertebeker and his treasure but the legend about him lives on.



Today there is a statue in Hamburg to honour Störtebeker

**Vokabeln – Vocabulary – Vocabulario**

<b>Deutsch</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>Español</b>
seekrank sein	(to) be seasick	estar mareado
umgeben sein	(to) be surrounded	estar rodeado
kapern	(to) capture	capturar
auf jemanden trinken	(to) toast	brindar por alguien
Axt	axe	hacha
Fass	barrel	barril
Lagerfeuer	bonfire	hoguera
Beute	booty	botin
Kanone	cannon	cañon
Zimmermann	carpenter	carpintero
Kammer	chamber	cámara
Häuptling	chief	jefe de la tribu
Herzog	duke	duque
Verlies	dungeon	calabozo
ewiger Streit	eternal conflict	disputa eterna
Scharfrichter	executioner	verdugo
wütend	furious	furioso
Hafen	harbour/port	puerto
Ritter	knight	caballero
Blei	lead	plomo
Kaperbrief	letter of marque	carta de corsario
Kaufmann	merchant	comerciante
Lump	rascal	canalla
Einwohner	resident	habitante
verächtlich	sternly	desdeñoso
Schrecken	terror	terror
die Armen und Bedürftigen	the poor and needy	los pobres y necesitados
Schatz	treasure	tesoro
elende Schurken	vile rogues	miserables bribones
Vitalienbrüder	Vitalian brotherhood	hermandad vitaliana

## **Roleplay based on the film “Störtebeker”**

### **First Scene: *Elisabeth and Störtebecker as kids:***

When Störtebecker was a child, he had a friend called Elisabeth.

On the beach:

Elisabeth wants to know what Störtebecker is holding in his hands. He tells her it's a treasure. She asks him where he found it and he answers he found the piece of amber on the beach and that it's a present for her.

Störtebeker wants Elisabeth to promise him something. The promise is to wait for him until he is back from the monastery. She waits a second but then she says “Ok I will wait for you”. “Promise?” “Promise”

Störtebeker gives her a necklace with half of the amber and keeps the other half for himself. After that Elisabeth has to go and gives him a farewell kiss.

### **Second Scene: *Störtebeker's parents are killed***

Conrad von Wallenrod has attacked the village where Störtebecker lives and has killed all the people including his parents.

When Störtebeker sees his parents dead lying on the floor he is shocked and runs towards them shouting desperately.

He kneels beside his parents.

“Please say something”, Störtebecker said to his parents. But they were dead and Störtebeker weeps bitterly.

Conrad von Wallenrod who has just killed Störtebecker parents forces his son Simon to kill Störtebeker. But Störtebeker is able to escape wounding Simon.

### **Third scene: *How Störtebeker got his name.***

After the death of his parents Father Wigbold takes Störtebecker to a monastery. In order to protect him from Conrad von Wallenrod's family, he decides to give him a new name.

He is about to write down the boy's new name but before that he gives him a jar of beer for him to forget his worries. Father Wigbold is astonished to see that the boy is able to drink 4 litres of beer in one gulp.

And so father Wigbold has the idea to call him Störtebecker in German “Stürz den Becher” which means the one who empties the glass in one gulp.

*Fourth scene: **Störtebeker becomes a pirate:***

Klaus Störtebeker wants to take revenge. Since his parents have been killed he is filled with hatred. At the same time he likes the sea and wants to be free. He therefore founds the Vitalian Brotherhood. The wild life he leads is dangerous but full of adventures. There is no routine and nobody who tells him what to do. He sails the Baltic Sea and the North Sea and especially fights against the Hanseatic League. Their ships are full of treasures like coins, salt or other victualians which means food.

*Fifth scene: **Störtebeker's brother is rescued***

Jan, Störtebeker's brother is caught by Simon von Wallenrod. He is accused of having killed his parents and Elisabeth's father and he has to go to prison.

A year later at the harbour of Hamburg Simon sets Jan free in exchange for Elisabeth. Now Elisabeth believes that Jan killed her father and therefore she decides to marry Simon.

*Sixth scene: **Simon von Wallenrod's death***

Störtebeker comes to the wedding of Elisabeth and Simon. He demands justice for his brother, who was accused of having killed the father of Elisabeth and the father of Simon.

Störtebecker starts fighting with Simon and finally he kills him.

In the end Elisabeth flees with Störtebeker her childhood sweetheart.

*Seventh scene: **Störtebeker's execution***

The Hanse constantly loses ships and they want to get rid of Störtebeker and the Vitalien brotherhood. They are betrayed and caught.

Störtebeker is brought to Hamburg where he should be beheaded as a penalty. His men are also sentenced to death.

However Störtebeker wants to save most of his men's lives so before he is executed he asks the councillor to leave as many of his men alive as he walks past after being beheaded.

Nobody knows for sure what really happened. But legend has it that although Störtebeker managed to walk past 12 of his men without his head. They were killed anyway.

## Vokabeln/ Vocabulary/ Vocabulario

<b>Deutsch</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>Español</b>
Bernstein	amber	ambar
Mönchkloster	monastery	monasterio
versprechen	to promise	prometer
Halskette	necklace	collar
provozieren	to provoke	provocar
Enttäuschung	disappointment	desilusión
Köpfen	to behead	decapitar
Ratsmitglied	councillors	concejal(a)
Angeklagte	accused	acusado, -a
Gerechtigkeit verlangen	to demand justice	exigir justicia

## Power point presentation: "12 Meter ohne Kopf" Vocabulary

<b>English</b>	<b>Spanish</b>	<b>German</b>
to defeat sb.	ganar a alguien	jmd. besiegen
to sentence sb.	sentenciar a alguien	jmd. für etw. verurteilen
to capture sb.	capturar a alguien	jmd. gefangen nehmen
to decapitate sb.	decapitar a alguien	jmd. köpfen
buccaneer	bucanero	Seeräuber
merchant	comerciante	Handelsvertreter