

One Piece

Volume 1: Romance Dawn – The Adventure Begins

Captain M's Rewrite

Version 1.0 (Original release)

Version 1.01 (Fixed minor typos)

Mission Statement and Introduction

This is not a new translation of One Piece. It's best to think of it as a composite and rewrite of previous translations, building on the foundation laid by previous English versions of the manga and commentary on them from Japanese-speaking members of the community, rather than doing the whole thing from scratch. I'm not a translator, but I am a writer, standing on the shoulders of giants.

The need for a project like this stems from several issues.

To date, no fan or fan group has ever produced a complete, start to finish, One Piece scanlation. The result of this is that a scanlation readthrough of the series can be wildly inconsistent as the reader stumbles between the work of different groups. With no uniting style guide, the tone of the series can vary wildly, and the names of characters, attacks and key locations and concepts can suddenly change, causing confusion and frustration. Fanmade versions can be prone to mistakes and misinterpretations of the original Japanese, some of the older ones even translating from Chinese scanlations instead of the original Japanese. They also tend to use lower quality scans of physical magazines and books, rather than official digital releases, may leave out volume extras, and will often not translate sound effects.

Conversely, the official English release has been worked on by a number of different translators, but they've been overseen by an editorial department that enforces a style guide and consistent use of established names. It's a smoother reading experience, but it has problems of its own. Consistency means that the official release can be constrained to choices made more than twenty years ago or more, even if newer information shows a better way to handle things. It has also settled on a tone that doesn't quite reflect that of the original Japanese writing and is occasionally softened in adaptation to maintain wider marketability. The early volumes of the official release were made in a very different time for anime and manga translation, and have enormous problems with tone, style and sound effect redraws.

Both official and unofficial English translations have struggled with foreshadowing, character voice and fitting reoccurring phrases into every context they appear in, as most of them are written week to week and haven't been revised since a given chapter was released. Some lines that were ambiguous in the original Japanese only show their most accurate meaning with the benefit of hindsight.

This brings us to the goal of this release. It aims to create an English version of the One Piece manga with a **consistent and singular authorial voice**, with a **tone that captures the intended reading experience of the original text**, with **consistent names and terminology through the whole series**, and with **as much foreshadowing as possible accurately conveyed** using the benefit of hindsight.

These goals and the ways they're pursued are subject to my own personal interpretation of the story, characters and intended reading experience.

For legal reasons, this work should be considered a creative writing exercise, the equivalent of fanfic. I do not encourage or endorse scanlations being made based on my work and have no intent of releasing such a thing personally.

Reading Guide

This project groups pages in pairs, whether or not they form a two-page spread, reading as you might see them holding a physical book open. This two-page view is also the default mode for most Japanese ebook sites. The intent was the ability to use this text as a script and follow along with the manga.

However, as that would be incredibly inconvenient compared to putting up with the shortcomings of the existing official releases and scanlations, I realised it was unlikely anyone would ever actually do it.

Instead, I've added additional stage direction for settings, staging, actions and scene changes to make this document more intelligible as a standalone read. Sometimes this creates double ups with the manga's actual narration, but this feels more acceptable to me than inserting the stage direction inconsistently or not having it at all.

The line order in the script generally prioritises dialogue over sound effects. If the first text the eye falls to is a speech bubble, usually all dialogue will play out before the sounds, unless Oda makes it extremely obvious the sounds go within the flow of the conversation.

Sometimes the reading order of speech bubbles and sounds can be ambiguous, so I've just followed my own judgement.

I've tried to keep the character names for the script's dialogue attributions as accurate as possible, using characters' names before they're revealed and drawing official names from databooks and other secondary sources, even when they don't appear in the actual manga. If a translation note needs to exist for a name, it will be saved for the character's first in-story introduction.

My stage direction and action tags are centred, italicised and in their own boxes, and will generally be placed in advance of the panels they describe.

Text in ***bold italics*** represents both words emphasised by the speaker in dialogue, and highlights important terms and concepts at their introduction for the sake of the reader. I trust you to figure out which emphasis is being used based on context.

Text that is *just italicised* was written outside of the regular typefaces of the original manga. This will mostly be sound effects.

(Lines in brackets are a character's thoughts and inner monologue. No one else can hear these. They are often indicated by text either not constrained by speech bubbles, or given unique bubbles.)

Lines in faded grey represent words and sounds being remembered or echoed, rather than spoken by someone actually in the scene.

Text with an underline represents laughter. Many characters in One Piece laugh using unique sounds that don't immediately scan as laughter to an unsuspecting reader. To make sure that strange laughs aren't mistaken for unfamiliar or foreign words, I'm distinguishing all laughter with an underline.

Line breaks in dialogue without a new speaker being tagged infer a move between consecutive speech bubbles. However, some narration boxes, particularly the ones used to introduce characters, have line breaks built into their formatting to separate names from titles and epithets. There's no easy way to distinguish these in script form, but I think the difference should be obvious enough if following along with raw manga pages.

While I've taken pains to ensure this version of the story is legible without footnotes, making sure terminology is rendered either in plain English or, if left in Japanese, contextualised strongly enough that an average reader should have no trouble following it, many readers also appreciate getting behind the scenes details and insight into translation choices, so footnotes regarding tricky names and lines are included.

Covers and Frontpages

One Piece vol. 1: Romance Dawn – The Adventure Begins

Written and drawn by Eiichiro Oda

Front cover: Luffy, Zoro and Nami celebrate on the deck of a ship.

Blurb¹: It's the Great Pirate Era! A generation has taken to the seas to search for the great treasure, the One Piece, left behind by the legendary pirate Gold Roger. Luffy, a boy who dreams of piracy, embarks on a great journey to become the Pirate King!!

Author avatar: a photo of a man wearing an alien mask.

Author Intro: I tried to gather a ton of reference material to do this pirate story, but all the pirates I loved so much as a kid hardly ever wrote down their history. I guess they were just too busy having fun with their own adventures to leave stories for future generations. That's just what pirates are like.

Illustration: Luffy rides a small sailing ship on a stylised ocean.

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¹ Not all Japanese releases of the One Piece manga feature a text blurb on the back cover, but in the interest of consistency I'll be writing one every time, always using the volume's listing on the publisher's official website.

Chapter 1, page 1

Title: Chapter 1: Romance Dawn – The Adventure Begins²

Roger kneels atop his execution scaffold, overlooking a vast crowd.

Narration: Wealth. Fame. Power.

There once was a man who achieved all the world had to offer.

They called him **“Pirate King” Gold Roger**.

His dying words inspired the world’s people to take to the seas.

Roger: My **treasure**? If you want it, go and take it...

Heh...

You just have to find it. I left **everything in the world** in **one place**.³

The executioners’ blades fall.

Narration: The world...

SFX: *Rooooaar!*

Slice!!

Narration: ...was thrust into the **Great Pirate Era**.

Chapter 1, page 2 - 3

Title: Chapter 1: Romance Dawn – The Adventure Begins

Cover illustration: Luffy, Nami and the Red-Haired Pirates celebrate with a hoard of treasure.

Chapter 1, page 4 – 5

A pirate ship is moored by a small port town. The crew is gathered on the deck, along with Captain Shanks, who has red hair and wears a straw hat. Local child Monkey D. Luffy stands on the figurehead, brandishing a knife.

² The word ‘romance’ in the volume and first chapter’s title refers to a classical sense of romanticism, such as the romantic era of art and literature – often concerned with strong emotion and individualism – rather than the modern definition that almost exclusively implies love and relationships.

³ As tempting as it was to work a title drop into Roger’s last words, this is as close as it’s reasonable possible to get while staying accurate to the original. The slightly unnatural-sounding wording, “all the treasures of the world” can imply that whatever Roger found belonged to the world itself somehow in a way that the cliché “all the treasure *in* the world” would not. Given the larger things the One Piece ultimately represents, the former is much more appropriate.

Narration: There was a small village on the *east sea*...
...that had spent the past year...
...harbouring a *pirate ship*.
An east wind blew...

SFX: *Flap!*

Shanks: ***Luffy!*** What're you doing now?

Luffy: Hmph!

Narration: ...and all was at peace.

Luffy: Now I've had it!! You guys can't treat me like a little kid anymore!!
I'll show all of you!!!

SFX: *Grr!*

Narration: Local child
Monkey D. Luffy⁴

SFX: *Don!!*⁵

Shanks: **Dahaha!** Show us then!
Get it over with!

Pirate: What's the kid up to this time?

Luffy drives a knife into his cheek, right below the left eye.

SFX: *Stab!!*

Luffy: Hng!!

Crew: !?
What the...

Luffy: Owww!!!

Crew: Freaking kid! What's wrong with you??!

Luffy: It huuuuurts!

SFX: *Aaaargh!*

⁴ Despite the otherwise western influences in most of the worldbuilding, almost all names in One Piece follow eastern name orders, with the family name in front and the given name at the end.

⁵ 'Don' is Oda's trademark sound effect, much like the 'ominous aura' of *Jojo's Bizarre Adventure* or the 'zawa' of *Kaiji*. The sound essentially represents a single big drumbeat being used to punctuate a dramatic or important moment. While most sound effects will be adapted to English to fit their use, I felt the need to keep the "Don" as a One Piece icon. Most scanlations don't bother with the sound effects and the official release adapts it to "Doom," so it's never had the memetic recognition it deserves. There's also one or two gags later on that require it to be left as "Don."

Chapter 1, page 6 – 7

In a tavern in town, the crew eats, drinks and parties, occasionally fighting over the food.

Shanks: Cheers boys!!
A toast to Luffy's **guts**...
...and our great voyage!!

Crew: Gahahahaha! Everyone drink!
Beer! Beer! Beer! Beer!⁶ We can't get enough!!
Hey arsehole, that was my drumstick!!
It's mine now! I licked it!
You guys cut that shit out. Go have another drink!!

SFX: Gahahahaha!

Luffy: Nope, didn't hurt one bit!

Shanks: Liar!! What the hell were you thinking??!

Luffy: Now you know I'm not scared of getting hurt!! Take me with you next voyage!!
Let me be a **pirate** too!!!!

Shanks: Little brats don't get to be pirates!!
Especially when they're **human cannonballs** like you!!

SFX: Dahahahaha!

Narration: Pirate captain
“Red-haired” Shanks

SFX: *Don!*

Luffy: Who cares if I'm a cannonball? I just won't fall overboard!!
And I'm a really tough fighter now too!
Check out my **training**!
I got a **punch** as strong as a **pistol shot!!!**

SFX: *Don!*

Chapter 1, page 8 – 9

Shanks: A pistol shot?
You're shooting blanks, kid.

⁶ The most direct translation here would have been “saké.” In English, saké refers to a specific beverage, but in Japanese, the word can be used to simply mean “alcohol.” As the barrel in the frame shows beer, the term was translated contextually.

Luffy: At least act impressed!!!

Crew: Hey Luffy! Don't get so down about your life!

Yasopp: Just have some fun with us!

Roux: Yeah!! The *pirates' life* is the best!

Crew: It takes you all over the sea!! To all kinds of islands!
It's the *freest* life there is!!

SFX: *Wow!*

Shanks: Guys, ease up on the bullshit.

Roux: But it's the truth!

Yasopp: Yeah!

Crew: Aw, c'mon captain!
Cut the kid a break, just once.
Yeah, why the hell not?

Luffy: Uhuh, uhuh!

Shanks: Fine, but someone's staying here to make space.

Roux: How's about another round then?!

SFX: *Gahahaha!*

Luffy: I thought you were on my side!!

Shanks: Truth is, you're just way too young.
Give it another *ten years* and maybe I'll think about it.

Luffy: That's not fair, Shanks! Stop it!!
I'm not a kid anymore!!

Shanks passes Luffy a glass and he immediately drinks it all, smiling.

Shanks: Woah, take it easy, buddy. Here, have some juice.

Luffy: Wow! Thanks!

SFX: *Glug glug!*

Shanks: Look at this *kid*, drinking his *juice!!*

SFX: *Dahahaha!*

Luffy: No fair!!

SFX: *Grr!*

Chapter 1, page 10 – 11

Luffy: I'm over this!!
Whose face **do** I have to stab to get on a ship??!

Beckman: Luffy.
Try to understand where the captain's coming from.

Luffy: **First Mate!** Where *is* he coming from then?

Beckman: You see... the captain is responsible for the whole crew, no matter how big it is.
He knows how fun the pirates' life is...
...but he also knows better than anyone how **dangerous** it can be.

Luffy: ?

Beckman: Get it?
He wouldn't say something like that...
...just to crush your pirating dreams.

Luffy: No I don't get it!!
Shanks is just out to make fun of me!

Shanks: **Cannonball.**
Hee hee!

Luffy: Like that!!!

The tavern's owner, Makino, enters, lugging a beer barrel.

Makino: You sure seem to be enjoying yourself, Captain.

Shanks: Taking the piss outta this kid's the best fun I know.

Beckman: Don't have too much fun.

Makino: Get you something to eat, Luffy?

Narration: Tavern owner
Makino

SFX: *Don!!*

Luffy: Yeah! You can put it on my **treasure tab!**

Shanks: Oh no, his treasure tab! I think you're trying to rob the lady.

Luffy: No way!! When I'm a real pirate...
...I'll find a ton of treasure and come back to pay it off!!

SFX: *Clonk!*

Makino: Hahaha! I'll look forward to it!
Haha!

Luffy: Shishishishi!

Chapter 1, page 12 – 13

A short time later, Luffy and Shanks both have plates of food in front of them.

Luffy: Hey, Shanks?

Shanks: Hey yourself.

SFX: *Munch munch*
Chomp chomp

Luffy: How long are you gonna stay here?

Shanks: Ah, let me think.
We've been using this port for more than a year now.
I think we'll make another two or three voyages...
...then leave for good and sail north.

SFX: *Clink!*
Rip!

Luffy: Hmm.
Another two or three...

SFX: *Murmur*

Makino: ...

Luffy: I'll learn to swim by then!

Shanks: Dream big, kid!
Good luck with that.

*The bandit leader Higuma kicks in the door of the tavern, sending it flying off its hinges.
Bandits filter into the room.*

SFX: *Crash!!*

Crew: !

SFX: *Clunk clunk!!*

Higuma: Sorry 'bout that.
Oh ho ho, there's **pirates** hiding here.
Never seen any myself. You look like a bunch of pussies.

Luffy: ?

Makino: ...!

SFX: *Tmp...*

Chapter 1, page 14 – 15

Higuma: We're *mountain bandits*.

Nah, don't piss yourselves, we're not here to break shit. In fact, we're in the market. You can sell us ten barrels of your finest booze.

Narration: Bandit leader

*Higuma*⁷

SFX: *Don!*

Markino: I'm very sorry, sir.

We're completely sold out at the minute.

Higuma: Really?

Weird way to run a bar. Wonder what all these pirates are drinking then.

Is it water?

Makino: No, but...

...it really was the last of my stock.

Shanks: Real sorry for the trouble, mate.

Looks like we drank the place dry.

Our bad, really!

Why don't you have the last bottle?

It's not even opened.

Higuma: ...

Higuma smashes the bottle. Broken glass and alcohol cascade over Shanks.

Crew: !

SFX: *Crack!*

Cling!!

Crew: ?!!

⁷ Higuma's name refers to a species of bear native to Japan. This isn't a central enough detail to his character to be worth changing the name over, given that I couldn't think of another species of bear that would be recognisable the same way in English. I worked "grizzly" into his dialogue later on to maintain a little of the allusion.

Chapter 1, page 16 – 17

Higuma: You don't know who the hell you're talking to.
Don't get smart, boy...
One bottle ain't worth the time.

SFX: *Drip drip*

Shanks: Oh no.
That just went everywhere.

Higuma: Look here.

SFX: *Flap!*

Higuma: I'm a very wanted man.
There's a **bounty** of *eight million berries*⁸ on my head.
I've killed 56 people.
All of them your kinda smart mouth punk.
Keep that in mind... unless you want things to get **grizzly**.
Lucky for you the mountains are so far from the sea.

SFX: *Clink*

Shanks: Sorry, Makino, we made a mess again.
Do you have a rag?

Makino: Oh... don't worry.
I'll get that.

Higuma: ...

SFX: *Shhk...*

Higuma sweeps his blade across the counter, shattering everything in its path.

Shanks: !

SFX: *Kersmash!*

Crew: !!!

Higuma: Seeing as you like cleaning...
...there's something to keep you busy!!
Bah.

⁸ “Berries” and “Bellies” are both equally viable from the Japanese, and the romanisations “belly” and “berry” have both appeared in the manga. I went with “Berry” both because it’s more widely used in official English releases and because I felt it flows better.

Chapter 1, page 18 – 19

Higuma: Smell you later.
Cowards.
No point staying in a dry town.
Let's hit the next one.

Makino: Are you okay, Captain?!
Were you cut anywhere?

Shanks All good, I'm fine.
Pfft!!

Roux: Dahahaha! Come on, Captain!!

Crew: He got you real good!!

SFX: Gahahaha!

Shanks: Hahahaha!!

Luffy: That wasn't funny!!!

Shanks: Huh?

Luffy: That was totally pathetic! You should've got him back!!!
Who cares if they look strong or scary!! **Real men** don't just let people do that to them!!! You're no pirate!!!

Shanks: ...
Hey, I get how that must have looked.
But all he did was spill a little drink on me. Nothing to get hurt over, right?
Luffy, wait...

Luffy: Forget it!! I'm not staying with you weaklings!!

SFX: *Grab*
Stomp stomp

Chapter 1, page 20 – 21

Shanks takes Luffy's arm as he tries to storm off. Rather than being stopped, Luffy keeps moving, his limb stretching out across the length of the room behind him.

Crew: ??!!

SFX: *Streeeeeetch!*
Splurt!!

Luffy: Huh?

Crew: What the...?!!

Shanks: His arm stretched!!!
That's not...!!

Crew: He didn't...
!!

Luffy: What's wrong with me?!!!

SFX: *Aaaaaaaaargh!*

Roux: It's gone!!

Crew: What?!

Roux displays a drawing of a strange fruit.

Roux: The **Gum Gum Fruit**⁹ we stole from that **enemy ship** is gone!!!!
Luffy, you better not've eaten this fruit!!

Luffy: !
I had it for dessert!!
It tasted real bad though...

Shanks: Listen to me!!
That was a **Devil Fruit**,¹⁰ a **great treasure of the sea!!!**

Luffy: !

Shanks: It's turned your whole body into **rubber!!!** And you'll **never be able to swim ever again!!!!**

Luffy: What!!! No fair!!!

Shanks: You idiot!!!

SFX: *Aaaaaargh!*

A new day. Luffy walks cheerfully into town and visits the market.

SFX: *Moo!*
Tmp tmp tmp

⁹ Originally ‘Gomu Gomu,’ an onomatopoeia for stretching. Devil Fruit names are a challenge in to adapt. They need to be concise, follow a familiar structure across every fruit and still describe the power the fruit gives. While some scanlations leave Devil Fruit names untranslated, this loses the intended experience of being able to guess the fruit’s ability from the name. The better name for this fruit might have been “Stretch Stretch,” but “Gum Gum” has become too iconic to ever consider changing. Luckily the imagery around gum has enough textile similarities to rubber that the power is still somewhat communicated by the name.

¹⁰ As with Devil Fruit names, the term ‘Devil Fruit’ has itself been left untranslated as ‘Akuma no Mi’ by some scanlators. But there’s nothing about this name that gets lost in translation and I see no narrative or aesthetic benefit from leaving it that way.

Narration: Fishmonger.

SFX: *Grin!*

Luffy: Hey Mr Fish Shop Man!!
Gimme a fish!

SFX: *Don!*

Chapter 1, page 22 – 23

Gyoru: Mornin' Luffy. Didn't expect you to look so upbeat, considerin'...
The pirates left you behind again, didn't they?
And you also lost your ability to swim forever.

Luffy: Who cares! If I'm a cannonball for good I'll just be a pirate that never falls overboard!

Luffy pulls his cheeks out an uncanny distance.

Luffy: It's really cool that the Gum Gum Fruit turned me into a ***rubberman!***
Now my ***smile***'s wilder than ever!! Check it out!!

SFX: *Boing boing!*

The villages old mayor, Whoop Slap approaches.

Whoop Slap: That's nothing to be proud of!! All your rubber body does is get you ***laughed at.***
That doesn't do society any good!!

Luffy: ***Mayor!***

SFX: *Don!*

Whoop Slap: Don't make me say it again, Luffy. You'll never be a pirate under my watch!!
It'd disgrace the whole village!!
The captain might be alright, but I don't want you hanging around those types anymore!!

SFX: *Huff huff huff huff*

Luffy and Makino talk across the counter of the empty tavern.

Makino: The captain's been gone a whole now.
Aren't you getting lonely, Luffy?

Luffy: Not for him! Not after that bandit!
He really let me down!

I thought pirates were meant to be cool...
...but I guess not.

SFX: *Tap tap*

Makino: I'm not so sure.
I think sometimes it's cooler if you can smile instead of fighting.

Luffy: You just don't get it, Makino.
If you're a man sometimes you gotta fight!!

Makino: That so? I guess I don't get it then!

Luffy: You sure don't.

A shadow in the doorway.

Higuma: 'scuse me.

Makino: ?

Chapter 1, page 24 – 25

Luffy: !!
Ugh...

Higuma: Well look, there's no pirates today. Ain't it quiet...?
Me and the boys were passing through and thought we'd stop in.

SFX: *Dodon!!*¹¹

Higuma: Don't just stand there.
You got customers!!

Makino: !

SFX: *Fwump...*
Smack!

Higuma: Get serving!!!

Soon after, at the mayor's house.

Makino: Mayor!! Help!!

Whoop Slap: !

SFX: *Slam!!*

¹¹ A don is often extended into a “dodon,” essentially adding an extra beat to the sound for additional emphasis.

Whoop Slap: What's wrong, Makino?

Try to calm down.

Makino: But it's Luffy...

...and those bandits!!!

Luffy has been dragged out into the street and surrounded by the bandits. Terrified villagers watch from behind their windows.

Bandits: This kid's got a weird-arse body.

For sure. Punching and kicking him's not doing a thing.

Luffy: ...!!

Villagers: Someone's gotta help Luffy!!

But... the bandits'll kill us!!

Besides, Luffy's the one that started the fight!!

Chapter 1, page 26 – 27

Higuma easily dodges Luffy's punch, then swings the boy around by his rubber cheek and hurls him into the ground.

Luffy: Dammit!!!

Say you're sorry!!!

Bastard!!!

SFX: *Wsh!!*

Higuma: A boy made of rubber, huh...?

There's a lotta freaky creatures in this world!!

SFX: *Fling!!*

Luffy: !

SFX: *Thu-thud!!*

Luffy: Oof...!!

I hate you!!!

Higuma: If I really discovered a new species...

Luffy: You're gonna pay!!!

Higuma: ...I can sell it off to a circus.

I bet it's worth a shitton.

Luffy tries again, swinging a stick, but is smashed into the ground by Higuma's heel.

Luffy: Yaaaaah!!

SFX: *Roar!!*

Higuma: Oh, give it up already...!!
Little shit.

Luffy: !

SFX: *Stomp!!*

Luffy: !!!

Higuma: Me and the boys were just trying to have a peaceful drink.
We didn't do nothing to hurt your feelings.

Luffy: ...!! Yes you did!!!
Damn you!! You'll be sorry!!!

Chapter 1, page 28 – 29

Villagers: Luffy, you idiot.
No one's bailing you out of this one!!

Luffy: Get offa me!!
Stupid bandits!!

Whoop Slap and Makino arrive. The mayor quickly drops to his knees and lowers his head to the bandits.

Whoop Slap: Let the child go!!
I beg you!!

Higuma: !

Whoop Slap: I don't know what Luffy did...
...but we have no intention of fighting you.
If you want our money you can have it!!
Just spare the boy's life!!

SFX: *Bow*

Luffy: !
Mayor...

Higuma: Well now, old man.
You sure know how the world works.
But it's too late for that!!
The little shit has to pay.
He pissed me off and I can't just let that go!!
I'm too big to sit there and take it...
...when some little rubber brat tries to tell me off!!

SFX: *Stomp!!! Stomp!!*

Luffy: ...
But you started it!!!
Big dumb ape!!!

Higuma: If you're gonna be like that, I won't sell you off...
...I'll just kill you here and now.

Higuma draws his sword.

SFX: *Shhhhhkk...*

Luffy: !

Makino: Luffy!!

Whoop Slap: Please!! Forget about him!!

Shanks appears behind Whoop Slap and Makino.

Shanks: No one came to welcome us at the port.
I had a feeling something was up...

Crowd: !

Chapter 1, page 30 – 31

Shanks: Oh hey, it's the bandits again.

Makino: Captain!!

SFX: *Don!*

Shanks: Luffy! Didn't you have a punch as strong as a pistol shot?

Luffy: ...!!
...!! Shut up!!

Higuma: So you can still stand showing your face here, *pirate*?
Or do you have more cleaning up to do?
It doesn't matter what you're here for, you should run before you get hurt.
One step closer and we'll shoot you fulla lead, coward.

Luffy: ...

A bandit draws a pistol and aims at Shanks's head.

Bandit: Are you deaf?! He said stop moving.
It's like you want your head blown off! Hahaha!!

SFX: *Click...*
Fsh...

Bandits: **Hahahaha!!**

Shanks: If you're drawing your pistol...
...you'd better be ready to risk your life.

Bandit: Huh?! The hell's that mean?

Shanks: I said don't wave this thing around lightly...

Roux shoots the bandit in the head, point blank. He falls dead.

Bandit: !

SFX: *Blam!!*¹²

Chapter 1, page 32 – 33

Crowd: !!!
Wha...!!

SFX: *Thud!!*

Crowd: ...

Luffy: ...!

Bandits: You... you bastards killed him!
Damn it...
These arseholes are fighting dirty!!!

Beckman: Dirty?
Don't make me laugh.
You're not fighting saints here.

Shanks: Your enemies...
...are ***pirates***.

Bandit: Shut up!! This's got nothing to do with you!

Shanks: Listen, bandits...
I don't care if you pour drinks on me or throw food at my head.
Even if you spit on me I can usually laugh it off.
...but!!

¹² Not all instances of the 'Don' sound in Japanese are used to punctuate dramatic moments. Sometimes it's used as a mundane sound effect like a gunshot. These uses will be adapted as appropriate for the circumstances. Sometimes it's ambiguous whether the effect is meant to represent diegetic sound or not, in which case I simply followed the interpretation that feels best to me.

I don't care what reason you have!!
I'll **never** forgive anyone who hurts my friends!!!!

Chapter 1, page 34 – 35

Luffy: Shanks...

Higuma: Hahahaha!
You won't forgive me?!
You're a bunch of stupid pirates who waste their time floating around all day!
You can't stand up to real mountain bandits!!!
Boys, kill 'em all!!!

The bandits draw their swords and charge.

Bandits: Yeah!!
Go to hell!!

SFX: *Raaaaah!*

Beckman: Leave this to me.
...all of them.

Beckman dodges a thrust and extinguishes his cigarette in the attacking bandit's eye.

Bandit: !

SFX: *Hisssss!!*

Bandit: Yeeeeow! It burns!!!

He then uses his rifle as a club and lays into the rest of his attackers.

SFX: *Whup!*

Bandits: Yaaaah!!!

SFX: *Whackwhackwhack!*

Chapter 1, page 36 – 37

With the rest of the bandit gang lying beaten around him, Beckman aims his rifle at Higuma.

SFX: *Kerchack...*
Fsh

Beckman: You bandits are too full of yourselves!!
If you want to fight with us...
...next time bring a **battleship**.

Higuma: ...!!

Luffy: ...so strong...

Makino: Amazing...

Higuma: ...Hold on!!
Just wait a minute... it was the little shit who started it!

Shanks: Come on, who'd believe that from a man with your kind of bounty?

Higuma: ...

Higuma hurls a smoke bomb down, obscuring himself and Luffy behind a huge cloud.

Higuma: Dammit!

SFX: *Poof!!*

Crew: ?!

Higuma: ***Smoke bomb!!!***
C'mere, kid!!

Luffy: Aaah!! No!! Lemmego, lemmego!!!

Shanks: Luffy!!
Oh no! Oh no! I screwed up!! He got Luffy!! And he got away!! What do we do now??!

Roux: Don't be stupid, Captain!! Stop panicking!! We'll split up and track him down quick!!

Beckman: ...sigh.
Our captain...

Chapter 1, page 38 – 39

Higuma and Luffy are on a small rowboat, drifting away from the port.

Higuma: Hahahaha!!!
It's the perfect getaway!!
They'd never expect a bandit to escape to the sea!!
Well, I only needed a hostage to get out of the village.
You're useless now!
Besides, I killed the other 56 who pissed me off. I shouldn't break the streak.

Luffy: ...!!

Luffy tries to punch Higuma, but he easily dodges and kicks the child over the side.

Luffy: No, **you** get killed!!
Unf!

SFX: *Whiff!*

Higuma: So close.
Smell you later...

SFX: *Donk!*

Luffy: ...!!!
No!!
No!!

Higuma: Little shit.

Luffy: I hate him so much...!!
But I couldn't even get one hit in...!! Damn it!!!
...!!!
...shit!!!

Flashback begins. The bandit group have filled the tavern, drinking and laughing.

Bandits: Hahahaha!!
Remember the look on their faces?
Got a bottle smashed over him and he didn't do a thing!!
Pack of absolute cowards!! Hahahaha!!

SFX: Gahahaha!

Higuma: Chickenshit cowards like that one pirate...
...really know how to piss me off.
I shoulda killed him then and there.
Turns out pirates are all talk after all.

Luffy: Shut up!!!

Higuma: What?!

Luffy: You can't look down on Shanks!!! He's not a coward!!!

Makino: Stop it, Luffy!!

Luffy: Don't make fun of Captain Shanks!!!

Chapter 1, page 40 – 41

Flashback ends. Luffy hits the water and flounders among the waves.

SFX: *Sploosh!!*

Higuma: Hahahahaha haa ha haa haa!!!

Luffy: Bluh... gasp!!
Glug!

SFX: *Splash splash!!*

Luffy: ?!!!

The Lord of the Coast, a monstrous sea serpent, rises from the foam behind Higuma's boat.

LotC: *Grrrrrr...*

SFX: *Wshhhhhh...*

Higuma: Huh?
W-what the hell is that...?!!!

The serpent bites down, annihilating the bandit and his vessel in a single blow. It then slithers towards Luffy.

Higuma: Aaaaaaaaargh!!!!

SFX: *Crunch!!*
Chomp chomp!
Glare!!

Luffy: Aaaargh... blub!!!!
Some... summunn... helbp me...!!!

SFX: *Splash splash*

Luffy: Aaaaaaaaargh!

SFX: *Roar!!*
Snap!!

Shanks appears at the last moment to whisk Luffy from its jaws.

Luffy: ...!! Shanks!

Chapter 1, page 42 – 43

SFX: *Glare*

Shanks: Leave us.

Shanks's fierce aura intimidates the Lord of the Coast into a retreat.

SFX: *Flinch*
Drip drip
quiver

Luffy: ...!! ...!!!

SFX: *Splash splash*
Skree skree
Flop...

Shanks: Thank you, Luffy.
Makino told me everything.

Luffy: Hic...!!
Sob...

Shanks: You stood up for us.
Hey, don't cry. You fought like a man, right?

Luffy: ...but...!! ...!!!
But Shanks...!! ...!!!

SFX: *Sniff sniff*

Shanks's left arm has been severed above the elbow. Blood drips into the sea.

Luffy: ***Your arm!!!***

SFX: *Don!*

Chapter 1, page 44 – 45

Shanks: It's nothing.
Only an arm.
As long as you're okay.

Luffy: ...Wa...!! Waaaa...!!
Waaaaaaaaah!

SFX: *Aaaaaaaaaah!*

Narration: Luffy finally understood why Shanks couldn't take him out to sea.
The dangers were too great...
...and he was not yet strong enough.
But he also understood Shanks's strength...
...and vowed to someday be like him.

Later, at the port. Shanks's crew is loading their ship.

Luffy: You're really leaving for good?!

Shanks: Yeah.
We've used this harbour a little too long. It's time to keep moving.
I'm gonna miss it.

Luffy: I'm gonna miss all you guys...
But I'm not asking to come with this time!
I've decided I'm gonna be a pirate on my own!

Shanks: Good. You weren't coming anyway!
Nyeh!
You don't have what it takes to be a pirate!!!

Luffy: Do so!!!
One day I'll have a crew even better than yours!!
And we'll find ***the greatest treasure in the world!!!***

Chapter 1, page 46 – 47

Luffy: And I'm gonna be ***King of the Pirates!!!***¹³

Shanks: Oh yeah...!! You're aiming even higher than us.
...
Alright then...

Shanks removes his straw hat and places it on Luffy's head.

Shanks: You can have my ***hat***.
Keep it safe for me.

SFX: *Plop...*

Luffy: !

Shanks: It's my favourite.

Luffy: ...!!

Shanks: So promise you'll bring it back...
...after you've become a ***great pirate***.

Shanks rejoins his crew, leaving a crying Luffy behind.

Beckman: That kid's going places.

Shanks: Yeah.
He talks just like me at that age.
Raise the anchor!!!
Hoist the sails!!! We're off!!!

SFX: *Whoosh*

¹³ There's been debate whether this key term is best rendered as 'King of the Pirates' or 'Pirate King.' As they essentially have the same meaning, I consider the terms interchangeable. 'Pirate King' will be used consistently for Roger's epithet, but in regular dialogue the version that flows best will be used.

Narration: The young boy's own adventure...
...would begin from the same spot, ten years later.

Chapter 1, page 48 – 49

A new day at the port. The town has gathered to see Luffy off in his rowboat.

Narration: Ten years later.

SFX: *Don!*

Makino: Well, Mayor, he's finally done it.
I'm really gonna miss him.

Whoop Slap: He'll disgrace the whole town. A pirate!

Gyoru: I never thought he'd actually make it.

SFX: *Coo coo*

Luffy: Ahh...
This was a good day to start out.

SFX: *Creak... creak...*

The Lord of the Coast rises from the waves and towers over Luffy's bow.

LotC: *Grrrrr...*

Luffy: Woah!

SFX: *Splash!!*

Luffy: It's the ***Lord of the Coast!!***
I've been waiting for this.
Check out what I've been working on for ten years!!

SFX: *Roar!!*

Luffy: ***Gum Gum...***

Chapter 1, page 50 – 51

Luffy's arm whips out, extending to strike the fish's jaw, sending it flying.

Luffy: ***...Pistol!!!!***

SFX: *Thwack!!*

Chapter 1, page 53 – 54

SFX: *Snap...!!*
Sploosh!!

Luffy: Eat that, you stupid fish!!

SFX: *Smirk*

Luffy: Hmm...!!
First up, I gotta find a crew.
Ten people should do it!!¹⁴

SFX: *Whup whup*

Luffy: And we need our own *flag!!*
Alright, here I go!!!
I'm gonna be...
... ***King of the Pirates!!!!***

SFX: *Don!!*

Narration: Luffy's small vessel sailed on in search of a crew.
It was the beginning of a great adventure!!!

Sketch page

Designs for Luffy, Shanks, Roux and Beckman are showcased.

Labels: Pirate Captain
First Mate
Young Luffy

Chapter 2, page 1

A new day. Luffy sits cheerfully on his little boat as it circles the rim of a raging whirlpool.

Luffy: Ah, the weather's great today!

SFX: *Coo coo*

Narration: The young man drifted recklessly across the sea, all alone in his small boat. He was searching for companions to join his ***pirate crew.***

Luffy: Things were going so well.
I can't believe my voyage's doomed already!!

¹⁴ Luffy's statement about the size of his crew seems to be ambiguous even in Japanese and has been the subject of great debate among fans. As I'm writing while the series is ongoing and the prospect of another crewmate remains, I've tried to keep it as ambiguous as possible if the ten includes Luffy himself while keeping the dialogue feeling natural.

Narration: ***Monkey D. Luffy***

SFX: *Don!*

Title: Chapter 2: The Man Called “Straw Hat” Luffy

Cover illustration: Luffy and a flock of striped ostrich stand proudly under the Straw Hat flag.

Chapter 2, page 2 – 3

Luffy: That’s the biggest whirlpool I ever saw.
Guess I shoulda stayed further back.

SFX: *Don!!*
Whirrrrrrr
Oooooh

Luffy: No point yelling for help, there’s no one around.
I can’t think of any way to save my boat...
...and I can’t swim either.

SFX: *Whirrrrrrr*
Glug glug

Luffy: I’ve got it! It ***doesn’t actually matter*** if I can swim or not in a whirlpool!
I’d drown either way!

SFX: *Whirrrrrrrrr*

Luffy: Woah!!

SFX: *Splash!*

Luffy: Gack!

SFX: *Whirrrrr*
rrrrrrrrrr...

Title: Chapter 2: The Man Called “Straw Hat” Luffy

Chapter 2, page 4 – 5

A bright pink pirate ship is moored near an empty island. The crew tirelessly scrubs the decks while the enormously fat Captain Alvida inspects their work.

Narration: On a remote island...

SFX: *Shaaa*
Don!
Shwick...

Alvida: Why is my ship still dusty...?

Pirate: I... I...!! I'm so sorry, ***Lady Alvida!!***
I thought I cleaned the whole thing but I must've missed that spot...!!
I... I'll do it over, just please...!!

Alvida: Please... what?

Pirate: Please don't use the ***iron mace***...!!
You don't have to kill me!!!

Alvida uses her iron mace. The pirate falls bloodied to the deck.

SFX: *Crack!*

Crew: !!

Alvida: ***Koby!*** Who is the fairest on all the seas?

SFX: *Thud!*

Koby: Eh...eheheh... W-well...
Well it has to be ***you***, Lady Alvida! Eheheheh...

Alvida: Of course it is!! And ***that*** is why I won't tolerate anything as ugly as dirt!!
The ship must be kept as beautiful as her captain!! Is that clear?

SFX: *Ooooooh...*

Alvida: Remember that your above-average talent for ***navigation*** is the only thing
keeping you alive.

Koby: I ap-ap-appreciate that very much, my lady.

SFX: *Shiver shiver*

Alvida: But other than that you're worthless, so get to polishing my shoes!!

Koby obeys, even as she kicks at his head.

SFX: *Stomp stomp!!*

Koby: Y-y-yes, my lady, right away!

SFX: *Flinch*

Chapter 2, page 6 – 7

Alvida: The rest of you!! Don't leave a single speck of dirt behind!!!

Crew: Y...!! Yes Ma'am!!!

Narration: Lady pirate
“Iron Mace” Alvida¹⁵

SFX: *Don!*

She kicks Koby away from her shoes.

Alvida: Enough of that!! What a pathetic effort!!

SFX: *Boot!!*

Koby: Oof!!
Eh-ehehehe... I'm so s-s-s-s-sorry my lady.

Alvida: If you've got time to grovel, you've got time to scrub the head!!

Koby: Eheheh!
Right away, my lady!!

Crew: ...

Koby: Right away...

SFX: *Sigh...*

Later, on the shore. Koby rolls a barrel up to a storehouse where three other crewmen are working.

Heppoko: What'd you find on the beach, Koby? Ooh, bet there's still some booze in it.

Koby: Well it doesn't f-f-feel empty, anyway. What should we do with it?

SFX: *Roll...*

Peppoko: Perfect! Let's all have a cup!!

Heppoko: But guys! If the captain finds out she'll...

Poppoko: Then she won't find out!!
It's only the three of us cleaning the storehouse.
Us and stupid Koby.

Heppoko: You got a point.

Poppoko: You know what that means, Koby...

Koby: Of c-c-course! I didn't see a thing! Eheheh!
You d-don't need to hit me...

¹⁵ Both ‘Alvida’ and ‘Albida’ have been used in official merchandise, including both different forms on opposing sides of her page of the *Vivre Card* databook. I’ve got with Alvida because it’s by far the most commonly used variant, and feels slightly closer to the historical Awilda her name is drawn from.

SFX: *Swsh*

Chapter 2, page 08 – 09

Luffy bursts through the top of the barrel.

Luffy: Yeah!!!!

Crew: Argh!! What the hell!!!!

Luffy: I slept great!!!

SFX: *Bam!!*

Luffy: Looks like I survived somehow!
I got so dizzy I was sure I'd die!! Hahaha!!

SFX: *Aah*
Don!!

SFX: *Silence...*

Poppoko: ...!?

Luffy: Huh?

Peppoko: ...!?

Luffy: Who're you guys?

Crew: Who the hell are ***you*???**

Poppoko: Who the hell floats around the sea in a barrel?!

The iron mace flies in out of nowhere and demolishes the storehouse.

Alvida: Get back to work!!!

SFX: *Whup whup*
Kercrash!!

Crew: Gah!
Yargh!
!!!

Chapter 2, page 10 – 11

Luffy, still half in the barrel, is sent rolling away. The crewmen lie dazed among the debris.

Luffy: Woah!
Oof!

SFX: *Whoosh*
Klunk
Twitch twitch

Crew: ...!!

Alvida: Stand up!!! Tell me, who is the fairest on all the seas?

Crew: Lady Alvida!! It... It has to be the beautiful Lady Alvida!

SFX: *Loom*

Alvida: That's right. So which one of you thinks he can ignore my orders?

Peppoko: ?
Huh? What?! I... I wouldn't ever do nothing like that...!!

Alvida: Don't play dumb with me!! I heard you all the way from the ship!
Which one of you was it that *slept great*??!

Luffy: Yeah!
I slept great!

SFX: *Don*

Poppoko: Oh!
Uh... that's right, Captain!! We got an intruder!!

Heppoko: Yeah!! Stupid Koby snuck him in himself, I swear...!!

Alvida: What? It'd better not be some *bounty hunter*...
...trying to collect the price on my head...!!
Koby, you brat!! How dare he betray me!!

Peppoko: But the only bounty hunter in these waters is...

Heppoko: Don't say it!! It can't be him anyway, I heard the *Marines*¹⁶ locked him up!!

Alvida: If he's as good as they say he'll have broken out by now.
You don't get as infamous as *Roronoa Zoro*¹⁷ for no reason!!

¹⁶ Sometimes translated as 'Navy' instead. In English, Marines and Navy mean two different things, but in Japanese and a lot of European tongues, the terms are interchangeable, resulting in some translation confusion. Navy is the more correct term in English for what this organisation actually is, but Marines is the romanisation used in the raw manga. I'm going with Marine because the consistency with the art is more important to me than the small number of people who'll know the term isn't technically accurate.

¹⁷ Zoro's name references both the real-world pirate François l'Ollonais (whose family name would be written similarly to "Roronoa" in Japanese) and the literary Zorro. A series of copyright concerns regarding the latter led to his name being Zolo in the official English release of the manga, but since this choice has caused endless vitriol among fans there was no question about keeping as close as possible to the original here.

Koby has followed Luffy to where the barrel stopped rolling, somewhere in the woods.

Koby: Um... Are you alright? Did you hurt yourself?
You rolled pretty far after that big hit.

Luffy: Hahahaha!
I'm okay. It just surprised me.
I'm Luffy. Where am I, anyway?

Chapter 2, page 12 – 13

Koby: This island is the hideout of “Iron Mace” Alvida.
I’m part of her **pirate crew** as a **cabin boy**.

Narration: Cabin boy
Koby¹⁸

Luffy: Oh cool.
Actually I don’t care about that.

Koby: Oh...

Luffy: I need to find a new boat. Mine sank in a whirlpool.

Koby: A... a **whirlpool**?! You survived a whirlpool?!

Luffy: Yeah, but it was a close one.

SFX: *Sigh*

Koby: A normal person would have been killed...
I do have a little b-boat, but it’s...

Koby takes Luffy to his ramshackle, visibly homemade rowboat.

Luffy: What’s this?
A coffin?

SFX: *Huh...?*

Koby: N-no... it’s a boat I made in secret by myself...! It took two whole years to do...

Luffy: **This** took two years? And... you don’t wanna use it?

Koby: I d-don’t think I c-c-can. I wanted to run away from here...
...but I just don’t have the guts to try... I’ll be a cabin boy for the rest of my

¹⁸ This name has also been written as Coby, Cobi and Kobi in the past. I went with Koby to match the Vivre Card Databook and the live action adaptation.

life.

It's not... what I **wanted** to do with my life but...

Luffy: Then you should leave.

Koby: N-n-n-n-n-no! My legs start to shake when I even **think** about what Lady Alvida would do if she found out...!!
I'm so terrified...!!!

SFX: *Shake shake shake shake shake*

Koby: All of this... it all started one day when I wanted to go fishing.
But I got on the **wrong ship** by accident and was surrounded by **pirates**.

SFX: *Loom*
Don!

Koby: In exchange for my life I became their slave and started helping with the navigation. It's been two long years.

Luffy: You're careless **and** stupid!
Wow!
And you've got no balls. I don't like you very much.
Hahaha

Koby: Eh...eheheheh...!!!
Such brutal honesty

SFX: *Gloom*

Koby: ...but... you're right... I don't have it in me to sail a barrel, let alone...
...if you don't mind, Luffy... What drove you to go out to sea so recklessly?

Chapter 2, page 14 – 15

Luffy: I'm gonna be...
...the **King of the Pirates!!!**

SFX: *Grin*

Koby: Wha... Gonna be...?!!! King of the...?!!!
The **Pirate King**, like the man who conquered **everything in the world?!!**
You'll need to achieve **wealth, fame and power** and find the **greatest treasure in the world**... Oh man.
Do you really think you can find the **One Piece?!!**
Or do you just wanna die?!
Every pirate in the world's looking for that treasure!

Luffy: And so am I.

Koby: N-n-no! You can't do it!! It's impossible!!
No no no, it's completely and utterly impossible!!
To be the **Pirate King** in the **Great Pirate Era...**
...is totally impossible!! You'll end up dead!!

SFX: *Shake shake shake*

Koby: Ow!!!
Y-you didn't have to hit me!!

Luffy: You were going crazy!!

SFX: *Bonk!*

Koby: Well... It's fine, I guess. I'm pretty used to it.
Eheheh...

Luffy: I don't care if I die!

Koby: What?

Luffy: I'm gonna follow my **greatest dream...**
...and if I die trying, at least I tried.

Koby: !!!
(...!! Such determination...!!)
...!! You... don't mind dying, just for a...?!!

Chapter 2, page 16 – 17

Luffy: But I bet I can make it...
...even if it gets really tough.

Koby: ...
(...!! I never thought about it like that...)
...!!

SFX: *Drip*

Koby: Then if I could... also follow my own...
...if I didn't mind dying...

SFX: *Plip*

Luffy: Huh? Follow what?

Koby: My own **dream...**
...of joining the **Marines...!!!**

Luffy: The Marines?

Koby: Mr Luffy, I know it'd make us enemies!!
But joining the Marines and catching bad guys...
...has always been my dream!!! Ever since I was a kid!!!
Do you think I can do it??!

Luffy: I dunno!

Koby: Fine!!! I'll just have to try!!!
It's better than being a slave here for the rest of my life!!
I'll risk my life to sail away from here and join the Marines!!
Then I'm gonna... I'm gonna come back here and **arrest Alvida!!**

Alvida bursts from the trees with her crew in tow. She smashes Koby's boat with her mace.

Alvida: Who're you arresting??! Koby!!!

Koby: Eeek!!!

Luffy: !

SFX: *Crunch!!*

Koby: !!
My boat...

Alvida: Did you actually think...
...you could get away from me?!

Chapter 2, page 18 – 19

Alvida: So this is the bounty hunter you hired...? He doesn't look like **Roronoa Zoro** to me.
Before we end this, I'll ask you one more time...
Who is the fairest on all the seas?
Answer me, Koby!!!

SFX: Tromp!!

Koby: ...!!

Luffy: Who?

Koby: ...!! Eh-eheh,,,
W-w-well it has to be...

Luffy: That's the fattest lady I ever saw.

Crowd: !!!!

SFX: *Gasp!*
Grrrrr

Crew: What...
...did that kid just...!!

Koby: Mr Luffy you need to take that back!!
What you have to say is...
Lady Alvida is...

Luffy: I'm gonna follow my greatest dream...
...and if I die trying, at least I tried.

Koby: ...the ***meanest bitch***...
...on all the seas!!!!
Oh!

SFX: *Loom*

Luffy: Hahahahaha!!

SFX: *Hahahaha!*

Alvida: You ungrateful brat!!!

Koby: (I can't take it back!! I don't regret it!! I said everything on my mind!! I did it!! I fought!! I fought for my dream!!!)
Aaaaaaaaaah!!!!

Chapter 2, page 20 – 21

Luffy: Nice, Koby. Now leave the rest to me!!

Koby: M-m-mr Luffy!!

SFX: *Fwip*

Alvida: How dare you!! The two of you...

Alvida swings her mace down on Luffy, but it has no effect at all.

Alvida: ...have to die right now!!!

Crowd: !!

SFX: *Bonk!!*

Luffy: That's not gonna work!
'cos I'm made of rubber!

SFX: *Grin*

Alvida: ??!!
I... I don't believe it!!! My iron mace never fails!

Koby: ...?!!

Crew: That's impossible!!!

Luffy knocks Alvida out with a single stretching rubber punch.

Luffy: **Gum Gum...**
...Pistol!

Alvida: Wha...!

SFX: *Kerpow!!*

Alvida: ?!!!

Chapter 2, page 22 – 23

Crew: ...!!! His... his arm stretched out somehow!!
Captain!!!
Lady Alvida's beat!!! He's a monster!!

Luffy: Go get Koby a boat!
He's gonna join the Marines!! Stay outta his way!

Crew: Y-yes sir...

Luffy: Shishishishi!

Koby: Mr Luffy...

SFX: *Weep*

A little later, Luffy and Koby sail away from the island on a single-masted boat.

Koby: So it's all because you ate the **Gum Gum Fruit**.
Amazing.
But Mr Luffy... If you're going after the **One Piece**... Then...
That means you'll have to sail the **Grand Line**...!¹⁹

Luffy: Mmhmm.

Koby: They call that place the **Pirates' Graveyard**...

Luffy: Yup. I'm gonna need a really strong crew.
Like that one guy...
The one they've got at the **Marine Base** you're going to.

Koby: Um... You mean **Roronoa Zoro**?

¹⁹ This stretch of ocean was once humorously misspelled in Oda's notes as "Gland Line," but it's obvious Grand Line is the intended reading.

Luffy: Yeah, if I like him, I'll take him with me!

Koby: What!! You're talking about impossible things again!!!
You can't do it. N-n-n-n-no way. Didn't you hear he's some kind of **monster**?!?

Luffy: We won't know til we meet him.

Koby: You can't!!

Narration: The pair in the little boat sailed toward the Marine Base.

Pirate Flags, page 1

Title: The Pirate Flag

SFX: *Don!*

Captions: The **Skull and Crossbones***
*The crossbones are thigh bones.

Text: Let me tell you a little bit about pirate flags. The design on the flag is called a **Jolly Roger** and is a symbol of death. It sure looks scary!
There are many theories about the origin of the name.
Some say it comes from the French **Jolie Rouge**, or **Red Lovely**, possibly referring to blood.
Others say the term was **Le Jerry Rouge**, or **Happy Red Man**.
And then, some say it comes from **Old Roger**, an old nickname for the devil.

Chapter 3, page 1

Title: Chapter 3: Introducing "Pirate Hunter" Zoro

Luffy: So they call him a **monster**?

Koby: That's right, Mr luffy.
Roronoa Zoro is scary enough that some people even call him "**Pirate Hunter**."
He works like a bloodthirsty wild dog...
...prowling the seas, always on the hunt for the next **bounty**.
He's a beast wearing the skin of a man.

Luffy: Hmm.

Koby: So you can give up on this crazy idea of recruiting him...

Luffy: I don't know if he'll be a good **crewmate** or not yet...
...but if he's a good guy...

Koby: He got arrested because he's **not** a good guy!!

Chapter 3, page 2 – 3

Title: Chapter 3: Introducing “Pirate Hunter” Zoro

Cover illustration: Luffy rides a shark.

The small boat pulls into port. The Marine base looms over the town.

Luffy: We made it!! It's the **Marine base town!!**

Koby: Yes!! At last!!

Luffy: That was amazing, Koby!

SFX: *Dadon!*

Koby: What?

SFX: *Don*

Luffy: We actually made it where we wanted to go!

Koby: Of course we did!

Basic navigation is the first thing you need when you set out to sea!

Luffy, you can't be a pirate by just drifting around at random.

Your crew needs a **navigator**.

Luffy: I'll find one soon!! But first let's eat!

Chapter 3, page 4 – 5

A local restaurant. Luffy and Koby have just finished their meals.

Luffy: I guess this is it for us!
Do your best to be a **great sailor** in the **Marines!**

Koby: I will...!! Thank you so much.
I hope you become a **great pirate** too.
Even if it makes us enemies.

Luffy: Actually... I wonder if that **Zoro** guy is still at the base.

Tables are overturned and plates fly as the other patrons leap back in shock.

Crowd: !!!

SFX: *Crash!!*

Koby: ...!!!

Luffy: ...?

SFX: *Shiver shiver*

Koby: Looks we shouldn't be using Zoro's name around here...

SFX: *Whisper whisper*

Luffy: Hmm.

Koby: The poster outside said this **Marine Branch** is led by someone called **Captain Morgan**.

The crowd takes an even bigger, more chaotic leap back.

SFX: *Ka-crash!!*

Crowd: !!!

Koby: Huh??!

Luffy: Woah!!

Soon after, Luffy and Koby walk through the town, heading for the base.

Luffy: Hahaha, what a fun place.
I wanna go back already.

SFX: Hahahaha

Koby: That was really weird...!! It's giving me a bad feeling...!!
I can understand why they'd jump at **Roronoa Zoro**'s name. He could escape at any moment.
But it doesn't make sense that they'd be scared of the Marine captain too!!

Luffy: Maybe they're just in a jumpy mood.

Koby: It's obviously deeper than that!!
Please try to be serious about this.

Chapter 3, page 6 – 7

Narration: Marine Base

SFX: *Don!!*

Koby: ...!!

Luffy: Looks pretty tough up close.
Koby, off you go!

Koby: I-I'm not s-s-sure I'm ready anymore....!!
And after what happened at the restaurant...

Luffy climb's the base's wall to peek over the top.

Koby: Hey! Mr Luffy!!

SFX: *Scuff*

Luffy: Let's see if...
...we can see the monster.

Koby: He won't be anywhere you can see from out here.
There'll be a cell somewhere inside.

Luffy: No! I saw someone over this way!!
Maybe it's Zoro!

Koby: Eh...!!...!!!
Gulp

SFX: *Whooooo*

Luffy has climbed another spot for a better view. Koby peeks over next to him.

Luffy: That's gotta be him.

Koby: ...

SFX: *Thump thump*
Peek...

Koby: !!!

Luffy: What's wrong?

Koby: B-b-**black bandanna** and **green sash**!!!
That's... That's **Roronoa Zoro** all right!!!
He looks so intense...!!! It has to be Zoro...!!!

SFX: *Thump thump!!*

Chapter 3, page 8 – 9

Zoro is tied to a cross in the middle of the staging area, looking haggard but alert.

SFX: *Don!!*

Luffy: So that's him... He'd get away pretty easy if I just untied him.

Koby: D-don't be crazy!!!
If he gets out, he could wreck the town and kill you, Mr Luffy!!!

Zoro: Hey you.

Luffy: Huh?

Koby: Eek!!

Zoro: C'mere for a second...
...and cut me free.
It's been **nine days** already. I can't take any more.

SFX: *Whoaaaa*

Luffy: Hey, he's smiling.

Koby: He's...!! He's talking to us...!!!

Zoro: I'll make it worth your while.
I can hunt down a wanted man and give you the whole bounty.
Trust me. I **keep** my **promises**.

Chapter 3, page 10 – 11

Koby: D-don't do it, Luffy!! he's trying to trick you...!!
He'll kill us both and run away the moment he's free, I'm sure of it!!

Luffy: He won't kill us.
I won't let him...
...because I'm strong too.

Zoro: What?!

SFX: *Glare...*

Koby: (There's no reasoning with this guy!!)

SFX: *Don!*

A ladder is propped up on the wall next to the pair. A little girl climbs up, then leaps over the side to approach the prisoner.

SFX: *Clack*

Luffy: Huh?

Koby: What?!

Rika: Shh.

Koby: Ah...!! It's dangerous to go in there!!

Zoro: ?

SFX: *Tmp tmp*

Zoro: The hell are *you* doing here?

Koby: Mr Luffy, do something!! He'll kill her!!

Luffy: Do it yourself.

Zoro: You got a death wish, kid...? Get outta here!!

Rika: Look, I made rice balls for you! you're hungry by now, right Mister?
It was the first time I ever made them, but I tried my best...

Zoro: I'm not hungry!!
Take your *onigiri*²⁰ and piss off!!

Rika: But...

Zoro: I said I don't want it!! go away!!
I can still kick your head in from here!!

Chapter 3, page 12 – 13

*Helmeppo, clad in a flamboyant suit, bursts through the gate of the staging area,
accompanied by two uniformed Marines.*

Helmeppo: Roronoa Zoro!!!
You shouldn't pick on little girls.
I'll tell *my father* on you.

SFX: *Crash!*

Rika: !

Zoro: !

Narration: Marine captain's son
Helmeppo

SFX: *Don!!*

Luffy: Check out that guy.

Koby: He looks like an important Marine...
Thank goodness, he can save the girl...

Zoro: Great.
The captain's *bastard son* is here...

²⁰ Rika calls her food 'rice balls' while Zoro uses the Japanese loanword 'onigiri.' Zoro's background draws heavily on Japanese culture, so snippets of Japanese will be used in his dialogue in places they wouldn't for other characters to emphasise the cultural difference.

Helmeppo: Bastard? I'd better not hear you say that again!
My father is the great Captain Morgan!!

Helmeppo grabs the rice balls from Rika's hands.

Helmeppo: Oh hello little miss.
Did you bring me something yummy?

SFX: *Snatch*

Rika: Hey! Give that back!!

Helmeppo: Blegh!
Disgusting!! It's... it's too sweet!! These are meant to be **savoury!**
It's like you used **sugar** instead of **salt!!**

SFX: *Yuck*

Rika: But... I thought everyone liked sweet things, so...!!

He hurls them to the ground and stomps on them.

Helmeppo: These are completely inedible, you **stupid girl!!**

Rika: Aaaa!! Stop it!! No!! They're meant to be **his!!**

SFX: *Stomp stomp stomp!!*

Koby: How c-c-cruel. She obviously tried really hard to make them...!

Helmeppo: You see that?!! That crap you made is only fit for **ants!**
Hyeh hyeh hyeh!

SFX: *Squish squish*

Helmeppo: Hyeh hyeh

Rika: No...!!
...!!

SFX: *Splatter...!!*

Chapter 3, page 14 – 15

Rika: You're so mean!!! I tried so hard... to get them right...!!!

SFX: *Plop plop*

Helmeppo: Boo hoo, don't start the waterworks!!
This is why I hate kids.

SFX: *Sigh*

Helmeppo: It's your own fault, understand?
You should have stopped to read the sign.
"to aid or abet a **criminal** is to be **guilty of the same crimes** he committed."
"-Marine Captain Morgan"

Rika: ...!!

Sign: To aid or abet a criminal is to be guilty of the same crimes he committed.
-Marine Captain Morgan

Helmeppo: You should know how **scary** my father gets.
If you were a grown-up you'd have been put to death!!

SFX: *Shiver*

Helmeppo: Throw the brat out of here!!

Marine: Sir...?

Helmeppo: I said to throw her over the wall!!
Or are you disobeying my direct order?!!!
I'll tell my father on you!!!

Marine: Yes... right away, sir!!

Rika tumbles over the wall. Luffy dives to catch her.

Rika: Yaaaaah!!!

Koby: !

SFX: *Whump!*

Luffy: ...!

Koby: Are you okay?!
What a **terrible** man!!

Luffy: ...

SFX: *Brush brush*

Helmeppo: Well aren't you a stubborn one!

Zoro: Yeah... I'll do the whole month.
Just keep up your end of the **deal**...!!

Helmeppo: Hyeh hyeh hyeh! Of course I will!!
If you're still alive after **one month** I'll keep my **promise** and set you free!!
Best of luck!!
Hyeh hyeh

SFX: *Tmp tmp*

Chapter 3, page 16 – 17

After Helmeppo leaves, Luffy climbs into the staging area and approaches Zoro.

Zoro: !
The hell are **you** still doing here?
If you get seen he'll run and tell his dad.

Luffy: Okay.
I'm looking for people to join my **pirate crew**.

Zoro: Pirate crew?
Hah...! Who'd want the life of a **criminal**...?

Luffy: But it's my **dream**!
What's so bad about being a pirate??!

Zoro: And what? After you untie me...
...I'm obligated to join you, right?

Luffy: I haven't decided yet.
Everyone says you're a **bad guy**.

Zoro: So I'm the bad guy now...
Well, I still wouldn't join you either way.
I've got other things I gotta do!!
I don't need your help to get through this!!
After one month he **has** to set me free.
The bastard son made me a **promise**.
I'll survive whatever happens to me...
And follow **my own dreams**!!!

Luffy: Wow, really...?
I'd probably starve to death in a week.

Zoro: You and me are different. I've got more willpower.
Find your crewmates somewhere else.
Hey! Hold on.

Luffy: Huh?

Zoro: Please... Pick that up for me.

Chapter 3, page 18 – 19

Luffy gathers what's left of Rika's rice balls off the ground. They're shapeless and filthy.

Luffy: Are you gonna eat them?
There's more dirt than rice here now.
No one's **that** hungry...

Zoro: Stop talking about it.
Aah
Don't tell me, just give it here.
Every last bit!!

Luffy feeds him the squashed rice balls. Zoro's eyes water and sweat beads his face as he chews, but he gets it all down.

Zoro: *Chomp chomp munch!!*
...!!
...!!!
...!!!

SFX: *Munch!! Chomp!! Chomp!!*

Zoro: *Gu... Gulp!!!*
!!!

Luffy: I told you. Do you wanna die?

Zoro: Urp... Go tell the little girl for me...!!!

Luffy: What?

SFX: *Twitch shiver*

Zoro: Tell her I said it was delicious.
Tell her, "Thank you very much..."

Luffy: !
Haha...!

Later, Luffy and Koby sit with Rika in town.

Rika: Really?!
Luffy: Yeah!
He ate the whole thing.
Rika: I'm so happy!
Koby: He's not acting like a bad guy like people say...
Rika: Because he's **not**.
He didn't do anything wrong at all.
People just think he's scary.
It's my fault he got arrested.

The captain's son had a pet wolf he let run around attacking people...!!
And Zoro killed it to protect me!

Luffy: So the only reason he was arrested...
Was because of **that guy's** pet?

Rika: Uhuh.

Koby: Of course!! It all makes sense!
No matter how scary he looks, being a bounty hunter alone...
...shouldn't have put him at odds with the Marines.

Chapter 3, page 20 – 21

Rika: Captain Morgan and his son are the real bad guys!!
They put everyone who doesn't listen to them to death, so everyone's too scared to say anything.

Helmeppo: Hyeh hyeh hyeh hyeh!! Bow until your heads touch the ground or I'll tell my father!!!

Luffy: !

The villagers prostrate themselves as Helmeppo struts up the road.

Helmeppo: Do you want to get strung up like **Roronoa Zoro**?!
It's only **three days** until his **execution** now!!
Let it be a lesson to the rest of you!!
Hyeh heyh

Luffy: Three days?

SFX: *Tromp!*

Luffy: You promised him one month!!

Helmeppo: What? Where did you hear about that?

SFX: *Gasp gasp*

Helmeppo: That promise was just a joke!!
He's a stupid beast if he really thinks we'd leave him alone that long.
Hyeh hyeh~

SFX: Pfffft!!

Zoro: After one month he has to set me free. The bastard son made me a promise.

Luffy punches Helmeppo. Koby leaps in to drag him away.

Crowd: !!!!
 Aaaah!!!

SFX: *Thwack!!*
 Eek!

Koby: Mr Luffy!!

Luffy: That bastard...

Koby: You have to calm down!!!
 You're going to end up **wanted** by the Marines!!!

SFX: *Aah*
 Eek

Luffy: Koby, I've made up my mind!!

Koby: Huh?

Luffy: I'm asking Zoro to join my crew!!!

SFX: *Aah*
 Eek

Pirate Flags, page 2

Instructions: Draw a Jolly Roger

1. Draw a circle.
2. Draw 3 circles inside the circle.
3. Hang a circle from the bottom.
4. Put 2 two lines inside.
5. Put in 3 vertical lines.
6. Draw the bones in the back, and...
7. Completed: What the-?!

Don!

7. Completed: Yay!
8. Put the straw hat on, and you have Luffy's flag.

Chapter 4, page 1

Crowd: Look what he did...!! Who *is* that guy??!
He hit the captain's kid!!
Captain Morgan's not gonna let that go!!!

SFX: *Rabble rabble!!*

Koby: Mr Luffy!! Please calm down!! He's a Marine, remember?

Luffy: Who cares!! He sucks no matter *what* he is!!

Helmeppo: You... you... *you hit me!!* You actually hit *me!!*
No one hits me, not even *Daddy...!!*

SFX: *Murmer*
Aah
Murmer

Title: Chapter 4: Marine Captain "Axe Hand" Morgan

Chapter 4, page 2 – 3

Helmeppo: I am the son of the great *Captain Morgan!!!*
I'm telling Daddy on you!!!!

Crowd: !!!

SFX: *Gasp!!*

Luffy: Fight me yourself instead.

Koby: Mr Luffy *please!!*

Helmeppo: You'll regret what you just did.
That was a *death sentence!!!*
My father's gonna kill you!!

Luffy: He's barely worth hitting.

Helmeppo: You bastard!!

Koby: Even while he runs away...

SFX: *Plop*
Tmptmptmp

Rika: You were so cool just now.
I'm not even scared anymore!

Luffy: Really? Then I should've got him again!

Ririka: R-Rika!!
Come here now!!
Stay away from that man!
If they think you're his friend they'll execute you as well!!

Rika: But mum, he's a good guy! Just like Zoro...

Luffy: ...

SFX: *Slam slam...*

Ririka: You can't say things like that!! You didn't sneak onto **Marine grounds**, did you?!!

Rika: N-no, of course I didn't...!!

Ririka: Just hurry up and come inside!!

SFX: *Slam...*

Koby: They won't let you get away with this!!
The captain'll send his Marines down and you'll be arrested, and then...

SFX: *Aaaaaaaa*

Luffy: If it happens, it happens! I'm gonna talk to Zoro again.

Chapter 4, page 4 – 5

The captain's office, inside the base. Captain Morgan smokes a cigar behind his desk while receiving a report.

Narration: Marine Base – Main Building

SFX: *Fshhh...*

Morgan: I am...
...*great.*

SFX: *Don!*

Marine: Yes sir...
...your greatness lifted you to the rank of captain, sir!!

Morgan: Am I not great enough to inspire decent **tributes**...
...From the rabble anymore?

Marine: Sir! I looked into the matter of donations, sir.
The civilians simply can't afford to keep paying what they used to...

Morgan: This isn't about their **finances**...
It's about their lack of **respect**!!

Helmeppo: Father!!!
SFX: *Crash!!*
Morgan: What do you want, helmeppo?
Helmeppo: There's a man I need you to kill!!!

The staging ground. Luffy has snuck in to see Zoro again.

Luffy: Hey.
Zoro: You again?
I told you I'm not being a pirate...!!
Luffy: I'm Luffy!
Join my crew and I'll set you free!!
Zoro: You're not listening to me!!

Chapter 4, page 6 – 7

Zoro: I told you there's other things I gotta do.
And I don't have to be a bad guy to do 'em.
Luffy: Then don't be.
But everyone already thinks you're a baddie.
Zoro: I don't care what people say.
But I don't make choices I'll regret later! That's not how I live.
Luffy: ...
Zoro: That's why I'll never be a pirate!!
Luffy: I don't care! I made my own choice that you're in the crew!!
Zoro: That's not your choice to make!!
Luffy: I heard you're good with a sword!
Zoro: ...!
Hah... If I wasn't tied up, you'd see how good I am.
Luffy: Where *is* your sword?
Zoro: The bastard son stole my *katana*²¹ when he tied me up...
My greatest *treasure*, aside from my life...!!

²¹ As with the first chapter's saké example, 'katana' in English refers to a specific kind of sword, but in Japanese can be used as a general word for swords. Zoro uses it in the Japanese sense, while most other characters will

Luffy: Wow.
He can't just take away your *treasure*!!
Alright then! I'll find the bastard son...
...And steal your *sword* back!!

Zoro: What?!

Luffy: And if you want it back from *me*...
...you'll have to join the crew.
Hahaha

Zoro: That's not fair!!
Hey, wait!!

Luffy: Bye! I'll be right back!!

Zoro: ...is he going to break into the base?
He'll never make it...!!

Chapter 4, page 8 – 9

The roof of the base. A squad of Marines is using ropes to hoist a towering statue of Captain Morgan upright.

Marine: Hold steady!!
Prepare to hoist!!

Helmeppo: Father!! That guy hit me in the face!! Why can't I take revenge??!!
Even you never raise a hand at me!!!

Morgan: ...! Do you know why I never hit you?

Helmeppo: ...Because I'm your beloved...

Morgan: Because you're my...

Morgan strikes Helmeppo. He is revealed now to have a metal jaw and an axe in the place of his right hand.

Morgan: ...worthless bastard son who's not even worth hitting!!!

SFX: *Kapow!!*

Helmeppo: Ooargh??!!

Morgan: Why should I fight your battles?
You're big enough to wipe your own arse.

follow the English meaning. He also takes advantage of the fact that the Japanese word can be singular or plural to set up a gag.

I don't care what you do in my name...
...but I only punish those who defy **me!!!**

Narration: Marine Captain
“**Axe Hand**” **Morgan**

SFX: *Don!*

Morgan: Know your place.
You are not great!! **I** am great!!
It's only **me**.

Helmeppo: ...!

Chapter 4, page 10 – 11

Morgan: I heard a **mouse** snuck into the staging area.

Helmeppo: Huh...? D-do you mean the little girl...?
Don't worry, I made sure...

Morgan: You better have made sure she was **dead**.

Helmeppo: What?
I couldn't... kill her... she was just a little kid...
She didn't know what she was doing...

Morgan: You, go to town. Execute the girl.

Rokkaku: But...

Morgan: Child or not, she **defied** my authority!!

Rokkaku: C-Captain! it's a little girl!!
I...!! I cannot obey that order, sir...!!

Morgan: You **cannot** obey? You're a **first lieutenant**, aren't you?
Does a **first lieutenant** outrank a **captain**... hm?

Rokkaku: N-no sir.

Morgan: Then you have no choice but to obey!!
If I say to kill her, you kill her!!

Rokkaku: ...sir!!
I cannot...!!!

Morgan swings his axe, hewing the torso of the hapless Marine, who falls and lies still.

Morgan: Then you're a traitor!!!

SFX: *Chop!!*

Helmeppo: Aaaaaaaaaaa
...!! He didn't deserve *that*...!!

SFX: *Gasp!!*

Marines: F-First Lieutenant!!

Morgan: Forget it... The rabble need a **better** reminder.
I'll handle it personally.

Chapter 4, page 12 – 13

Morgan: I clawed and struggled to the rank of captain with my own strength and **my own arm**.
Rank and **title** are **everything** in this world!!!
As the highest-ranking officer of this branch...
...I'm **greater** than each and every one of you...!!!
Great men do not make mistakes!!!
Am I wrong...?!

Marines: No sir!!
We defer to your greatness, sir!!

SFX: *Slap!!*

Morgan: Now look!! The monument of my authority!!!
Completed after years of work!!
Pull it upright!! Display my greatness for the rabble to bask in!!!

SFX: *Bam!*
Tug tug
Rrrrrrrrb

Luffy stands before the front door of the base.

Luffy: That's weird. I haven't seen a single Marine.
Maybe they're in a meeting.
I can't ask anyone...
...where to find the **bastard son** or **Zoro's sword**.

On the roof.

Marines: Heave!! Heave!!

SFX: *Rmmmmmmmb*

The statue's left hand collides with part of the building's structure as it comes upright.

Ukkari: Ah!!

SFX: *Klunk...*
Morgan: Stop right there...!!!
Did you damage it?!!
Ukkari: S-sorry sir! An accident, sir!

By the front door.

Luffy: Huh?
Are they all up there?
I'll check it out!
SFX: *Whup...!!*

Chapter 4, page 14 – 15

Luffy throws his arm up, stretching all the way to the roof of the base. He grabs hold and his body rockets up toward the top.

Luffy: **Hyup!**
SFX: *Stretch!*
Snag
Luffy: **Gum Gum...**
SFX: *Sproi-oing...!!*
Luffy: **...Rocket!!!**
SFX: *Whoosh!!*

On the roof.

Morgan: Do you have **any idea** how long I've been waiting for this statue to be finished?!!
And you've already chipped it!!
Ukkari: I'm very sorry sir!! I'll take responsibility for the repairs, sir!!
Morgan: The statue is a monument to **me!!**
Damage to the statue is disrespect to my authority!!!
SFX: *Loom...*

Luffy flies past the scene, overshooting his target.

Morgan: You know what that means!!!
Ukkari: Aaaargh!

SFX: *Boing!*
Luffy: Whoops.
Too much.
Marines: Who is that?
It's like he's flying...

Luffy grabs the ropes on Morgan's statue to correct his course, the sudden movement jerking them free of the Marines' hands.

Luffy: Saved!
Marines: !
Wha?!!
SFX: Snag!!
Creak....!!

Chapter 4, page 16 – 17

The statue falls and shatters.

Luffy: Huh?
Marines: !!!!
SFX: *Crash!!*
Luffy: Um...
My bad.
SFX: *Krakoom!!*
Morgan: Seize him! I'll kill him!!!!
SFX: *Roar*
Marines: Sir...
Yes sir!! Right away sir!!
Helmeppo: Daddy it's him!!
He's the one who hit me!! I told you!! He's a bad guy!!

Chapter 4, page 18 - 19

Luffy grabs Helmeppo and drags him into the base.

Luffy: I've been looking for you!!

Helmeppo: Aaaargh! Lemme go! Daddy help!!!

Marines: He's retreating into the base!

Helmeppo: Aaaa!

Marines: After them!!

Captain!! There's an intruder in the staging area!!

Morgan: What??!

Traitors, one after another!!! I'll kill them all!!!

SFX: *Huff huff*

Koby is in the staging area, talking to Zoro. He starts untying the prisoner's arm.

Koby: What?! Mr Luffy went into the base?
I can't believe him!!

Zoro: It's true. What's *wrong* with that man?
Hey! If you do that, they'll have you killed.

Koby: You're not meant to be here!!!
I can't stand these Marines!!

When I enlist, I'll be a *real* Marine!! If Mr Luffy can be *King of the Pirates*, I can do *that*!!

Zoro: What?
Pirate King?! Does he know what that means?

Koby: Eheheh... I thought the same thing.

But he really means it. That's the kind of man he is!!

Blood blossoms from Koby's shoulder as the impact of a bullet throws him backward.

Zoro: !

SEX: *Bam!*

Luffy speeds through the halls, still dragging Helmeppo.

Marines: There they are!!

Luffy: Where's Zoro's sword??!

Helmeppo: I'll tell, I'll tell!! Just stop dragging me!!

Pirate Flags, page 3

Instructions: Make your own jolly roger!!

You've mastered the basics by now, right?
Now try making your own *pirate flag* based on the original!!

(Examples)

Luffy's flag - Wearing a straw hat

Shanks' flag - 3 lines on the left eye and swords behind

Alvida's flag - Heart mark on a sideways skull

(Suggestions)

If you like baseball

If you want to be a cook

If you want a totally original design

Chapter 5, page 1

Title: Chapter 5: The Pirate King and the Greatest Swordsman

Cover illustration: Luffy, Zoro and a dolphin drink juice by the sea.

Chapter 5, page 2 – 3

Luffy: Tell me already!! Where's Zoro's sword?!!

Helmeppo: I already said I would...!! Just let me go!!

SFX: *Thdthdthdthdthd*
Screech!!

Luffy: Where then?

Helmeppo: In my room!
You ran right past it!

SFX: *Huff huff*

Luffy: Why didn't you say so?

Helmeppo: You hit me *again!!*

SFX: *Smack!!*

A squad of Marines take aim, but Luffy puts Helmeppo between himself and them.

Marines: Don't move!! Put your hands up and turn around slowly!

Luffy: !

SFX: *Kerchack*

Luffy: No

Helmeppo: Huh?

SFX: *Fwip*

Luffy: Go on and shoot if you wanna!!

Helmeppo: Eeeeeek!

Marines: Hold...!! He's using Master Helmeppo as a shield!!

SFX: *Tmptmptmptmp*
Aaaaaaa

Helmeppo: Aaaaaaaaaa!
Aaaaaaaaaa!

The staging area.

Koby: Aaaaaaaaaarghh!!

SFX: *Aaaaaaaa!*

Koby: Aaaa! I'm hit!
Blood!! There's b-b-b-blood!

SFX: *Ooze ooze*

Chapter 5, page 4 – 5

Koby: I'm gonna d-d-d-die!!!

Zoro: ...
You seem alive to me...
Phew
But get outta here!
They're coming down.

Koby: Huh...? Gasp...!!
Huff huff
No!! Not... yet...! I still need to untie you!!

Zoro: Don't worry about me. They'll free me if I survive the month.
So get a move on alr...

Koby: No they won't!!
You're being executed in three days!!

Zoro: What do you mean?! The bastard son promised me that if was alive at the end of the month...

Koby: He was never going to keep his promise!!
Huff huff
He was bragging about fooling you to the townsfolk!!
Mr Luffy hit him when he found out!!

SFX: *Thwack!!*
Aah
Eek

Zoro:!
W-what are you saying?!!!!

Koby: The Marines are your enemy now!!
Huff huff
Please!! Go help Mr Luffy when you're free!!
He saved my life!! You don't have to be a pirate, but...

Zoro: ...

Koby: ...Mr Luffy's really strong as well!! If you work together...
...you might be able to get out of here alive!! So please....!!

Chapter 5, page 6 – 7

A squad of Marines arrives and takes aim at the pair.

Marines: Don't move a muscle!! Captain Morgan has identified you as traitors...
...and ordered your immediate execution!!!

Crowd: ?!!

SFX: Kerchack

Luffy and a now-limp Helmeppo burst into the latter's quarters.

SFX: *Slam!*

Luffy: This room then?!!
Ah!
Finally!! **Swords!!**
But there's **three** of them.
Hey, which one's Zoro's?
Oh, he fainted.
Huh?

SFX: *Fizz*

Luffy notices the staging area scene through the window.

Luffy: What's happening down there?
!
Koby!

Morgan has arrived in the staging area.

Morgan: Lock down the base!! Don't let the runt in the *straw hat* escape!!!
The three of you aren't normal criminals...
What's your real plan? A *coup* against *me*?

SFX: *Wshh!!*

Chapter 5, page 8 – 9

Morgan: *Roronoa Zoro...* You've got quite the reputation, but don't underestimate me.
Your strength is *nothing*...
...compared to my *greatness!!*
Take aim!!

SFX: *Chack!!*

Crowd: !!!

Zoro:!!
(I...)
(I can't die here!!)
(I've still got things I gotta do!!!)

Flashback starts. A young Zoro fights with wooden swords at his dojo and is soundly beaten by Kuina.

Zoro: (I *promised* her...!)

Kuina: Hi-yah!

SFX: *Klonk!!*

Koshiro: Winner: *Kuina!!*
Zoro, fighting *Nitoryu Style*²², has lost!!
Kuina leads, 2,000 wins to *none*.
Too bad.

Zoro: Ugh!!

Kuina: Hmph!! Aren't you embarrassed?
You're so weak... for a *boy!!*

²² 'Nitoryu' is literally 'two-sword style.'

Villagers: Hey!! Zoro's not weak!!
Yeah!! He's the best in the whole dojo!
He's even better than the grown-ups!!

Kuina: Is that so? Well, he's still weaker than me.
Even with ***two-sword techniques***, he's still ***weak!***
Losers should just suffer in silence.

Zoro: Shit!

Villagers: I hate that Kuina!!
Even if she's kinda cute.
She makes me mad!! Thinks she's so good 'cos she's ***Sensei's daughter!***

Chapter 5, page 10 – 11

Koshiro: So what you lost again?
You're still my star pupil.

Villagers: ***Sensei!***²³

SFX: *Don!*

Villagers: Sensei!! You've been secretly training her because she's your daughter,
right??!
She's cheating!!

Koshiro: Of course not!

SFX: *Grumble grumble*

Zoro: Damn it!!!
Why can't I beat one stupid little girl?!!!

SFX: *Klak klak*

Koshiro: Well, that ***little girl*** is actually older than you.

Zoro: But I beat grown ups!
When I grow up I'm gonna be the ***greatest swordsman in the world!***
I can't afford to lose to little girls!!!

Kuina trains alone that evening. Zoro appears, carrying two swords.

Kuina: Hi-yah!
Hi-yah!

²³ Japanese for 'teacher.' This one's probably common enough that it doesn't need a footnote, but just in case.

SFX: *Crack!*
Whsh whsh!!

Kuina: *Huff huff*
Zoro...?
Huff

Zoro: Kuina!! Duel me with **real blades!!!**
You have a **katana** don't you??!

Kuina: My **katana**?
Fine then.

Soon the pair are squaring off with their real swords.

SFX: *Shh shh*

Zoro: Let's go!

Kuina: Bring it on!!

Chapter 5, page 12 – 13

Zoro: Yaaaaah!

Kuina: Hi-yah!

Zoro and Kuina clash, blades flying. Eventually, Zoro is disarmed and knocked down. Kuina stands dominantly over him.

SFX: *Clang! Clang!*

Zoro: !

SFX: *Shi-ing!!*
Shunk!!

Zoro: !!!

Kuina: That's **2,001** to **zero**.

SFX: *Thunk thunk*

Zoro: Damn it!!!
I can't believe it!!!!

Kuina: Actually... I'm as frustrated as you are...

Zoro: How?!

Kuina: Girls end up weaker than boys. We don't grow the same muscles...
Pretty soon all you guys'll overtake me.

Zoro, it's just like you always say...
You're going to be the **World's Greatest Swordsman**...²⁴
...And it won't be **me**. Papa said a girl can't be the world's strongest
anything!!

Zoro: ...

Kuina: You're so lucky to be born a **boy**.
I wish I could be the strongest in the world too!!
My chest is already growing...
If only I'd been born male...

Zoro: You can't give up and cry after you've won!!!
That's not fair!! Not while I'm still dreaming of beating you!!!

Chapter 5, page 14 – 15

Kuina: Zoro...

Zoro: Don't make it about **boys** and **girls**!! I'm gonna beat you 'cos **I** got stronger,
not 'cos **you** got weaker!!!
That would make me look like an idiot!! I've been training every day just to
catch up to you!!!
Make a **promise** with me!!!
Someday, one of us is going to be **the greatest swordsman in the world!!**

Kuina: !

Zoro: Race me for the title!!!

Kuina: ...!! You idiot!!
Sniff
I already beat you!
It's a promise then!

SFX: *Clap!!*

The next morning.

Villager: Zoro!! Terrible news!! It's **Kuina**...!!
She had a fall on the stairs...
...and **died**!!!

An adult has to restrain Zoro as he cries out over Kuina's body.

²⁴ "World's Greatest Swordsman" could also be "World's Strongest Swordsman," but I stuck with "Greatest" for the thematic consistency with things like Morgan's idea of 'greatness,' the Great Pirate Era, and Luffy's promise to become a 'great pirate.'

Zoro: How could you!! You made me a promise last night!!
You can't just run away from that!!!

Villager: Zoro, please!!

Koshiro: Human beings are fragile things, Zoro.

Zoro: Sensei!! Let me keep *her katana!!*

Koshiro: If it helps you...

Zoro: I'll get stronger for both of us!!!
I *will* be the **World's Greatest Swordsman!** I'll make my name so great she hears it from heaven!!!!

Chapter 5, page 16 – 17

Flashback ends.

Zoro: (I *promised* her!!!)
(I can't die here!!!)

Luffy grabs Helmeppo's windowsill and stretches back before launching himself through the glass and toward the staging area.

Luffy: **Gum Gum...**

SFX: *Streeee*

Luffy: ...**Rocket!!**

SFX: *Smash!!*

Morgan: Fire!!!

SFX: *Fwoosh!!*

Luffy lands between Zoro and Koby and the Marines, shielding them from the barrage. The impact of the bullets warps his body, but they don't pass through.

Crowd: !!!

SFX: *Don!!*
Blam bam bam bam bam

Zoro: That guy!!!!

Koby: Mr Luffy!!!

Morgan: Straw Hat...

Luffy: *Heh*

SFX: *Boooooing*

Chapter 5, page 18 – 19

Luffy's body snaps back to its original shape, sending the bullets flying.

Luffy: That won't work!!!!

SFX: *Kersnap!!*

Marines: Eeeeeek!!!

SFX: *Sna-pow pow pow pow*

Luffy: Hahahahahaha!!!

Zoro: What the...!!! What the hell **are** you?!!!

SFX: *Twitch twitch*

Luffy: I'm the man...
...who's gonna be **King of the Pirates!!!**

SFX: *Grin*

Luffy: Here! Which one's your **treasure**?
I didn't know so I grabbed them all.

Zoro: All of them. I fight with **three katana**.
The style is called **Santoryu**.²⁵

Luffy: If you fight the Marines with me, they'll call you an **enemy** of the
Government.

Zoro: ...

Luffy: But they were gonna kill you anyway, right?

Zoro: You're like the **spawn of the devil**...
Fine then, if I'm a criminal either way...
I'll be a **pirate!!!**

Design Notes

Titles: Marine Captain "Axe Hand" Morgan
How he came to be!!

Morgan: I'm **great**.

²⁵ Literally 'three-sword style.'

Text: The design for Helmeppo came first. To make his father, I thought “he needs to have the same cleft chin and even crazier hair.”

This was my first design. His name wasn’t *Morgan* yet, it was *Chop*. Marine Captain *Chop*!! It was almost going to be *Sailor Chop*, like *Giant Baba*’s *Suihei Chop*. Lucky I didn’t go with that.

SFX: *Don!*

Text: I don’t have room to show them all, but there were two or three other versions of Captain Morgan before I settled on his final design. I ended up making him kinda cool after one of the editors told me he looked lame. I couldn’t argue with that.

Chapter 6, page 1

Luffy: Yeah!! You’re really joining??!

SFX: *Hooray!*

Zoro: Yes, so hurry up with the ropes!!

Marines: What *was* that??!
The bullets bounced right back!!!

Title: Chapter 6: First

Chapter 6, page 2 – 3

Morgan: That kid’s not normal!!!
He must be using the power of a *Devil Fruit*!

Marines: ...A *great treasure of the sea*??!
I’ve never seen their powers before!!!

SFX: *Gasp*

Luffy starts struggling with the knots binding Zoro’s arms.

Marine: Sir! He’s untying zoro again sir!!

Morgan: Then stop him!!!
If you can’t shoot him, use your swords!!!

The Marines rally, blades drawn.

Marines: Chaaaaarge!

Crew: !

SFX: *Ooooooh*

Luffy: Ugh, the knot's too tight...
I can't get it.

Zoro: Hey!! Get on with it!!

SFX: *Ooooo*

Koby: ...Ooof...
Ah, I blacked out for a moment... What...

SFX: *Ugh...*

Koby: What?!!
Oh no!
Mr Luffy! Mr Zoro! Watch out!!!

Luffy: Shut up, I'm trying.

Zoro: We don't have time for *trying!!*

SFX: *Ooooo*
Jolt!

Luffy: Yeah! That's one hand!
Got it!

Zoro: Give me my *katana* you idiot!!

SFX: *Oooo*

Morgan: Everyone who defies me must die!!!

Koby: ...!!

SFX: *Aaaaaa*

Chapter 6, page 4 – 5

The squad of Marines surround the pair and swing their blades down. Zoro gets free at the last moment and uses his three katana to block all their attacks at once.

SFX: *Kachang!!*

Marines: !!!

SFX: *Don!*

Morgan: R-Roronoa Zoro!!!

Koby: ...!

Luffy: Woah!
That's so cool!!

Zoro: First one to move...
...is the first one to *die*!

Marines: ...!!! Eep!!
(He's *terrifying*!!!)

SFX: *Shiver*!!

Chapter 6, page 6 – 7

Zoro: I'm a pirate now... just like I *promised*!!
Fighting the Marines makes it official...
But you need to understand!! I've still got my own *dream*!!!

Luffy: !

Zoro: I'm gonna be the *World's Greatest Swordsman*!!!!
It doesn't matter if I follow the law!!
Or if people call me a *hero* or a *villain*!
As long as the *whole world* learns my name!!!
I'll join you like you wanted!! But if you do anything that gets in the way of
my ambitions...
...I'll have you commit *seppuku*!!!²⁶

Luffy: The *Greatest Swordsman in the World*!!
The *King of the Pirates*...
...won't settle for anything less!!!

Zoro: Heh!
Full of himself...

Morgan: Why are you hesitating??!!
Finish them off immediately!!!

SFX: *Bam*!!
Whooooo

Luffy: Zoro, duck!!

Marines: !!!

Zoro: !

SFX: *Fwip*

²⁶ Like 'sensei' before, this one has permeated into the west via culture enough that you probably know that it's a form of ritual suicide where a disgraced samurai cuts open their own belly to restore their honour.

Luffy: ***Gum Gum...***

Chapter 6, page 8 – 9

Luffy's extended leg sweeps across the battlefield, passing over Zoro and sending the Marines flying.

Luffy: ***Whip!!!!***

SFX: *Wha-chack!!*

Marines: **!!!!**

Chapter 6, page 10 – 11

Morgan: **?!?**

Koby: **Y-yeah!!**
Awesome!!!

Zoro: **What the hell *are* you??!**

Luffy: **I'm...**
...a *rubberman*!!!

Marines: **R-r-rubberman??!**
Captain!! They're too much!! We can't handle them, sir!!

Morgan: **...!**

Marines: **Sir!! The two of them are too strong!!**
***Roronoa Zoro* alone was above our level!!**

SFX: ***Dodon!!***

Chapter 6, page 12 – 13

Morgan: **This is an order.**
All of you who were just *whining*...
...shoot yourselves in the head!

Marines: **!!!**

Morgan: ***My Marines* have no need...**
...for snivelling cowards!!!
Obey your orders!!!

SFX: ***Gasp***

The Marines raise their weapons to their heads and hold them there.

Marines: ...!!

SFX: *Kerchack*

Crew: !!!

Zoro: These Marines are crazy!!!

SFX: *Shing!!*

Zoro: !

SFX: *Tmptmptmp!!*

Luffy leaps at Morgan and starts scrapping with him.

Luffy: ***I'm*** you guys's enemy!
Try putting ***me*** to death!!!

Morgan: !!

SFX: *Kapow!!*

Chapter 6, page 14 - 15

Marines: ...!

Koby: Mr Luffy!!!
Destroy these terrible Marines!!!

Morgan: You're a peasant with no ***rank*** or ***status!!***
I'll teach you your place in this world!

SFX: *Fwsh*

Morgan: I'm the ***great Captain "Axe Hand" Morgan!!!***

SFX: *Roar*

Luffy: I'm Luffy!
Nice to meet you!

SFX: *Don*

Luffy dodges a wild swing from Morgan. The axe clips the fence and severs it in a clear line that extends far beyond the actual reach of the blade.

SFX: *Swoosh!!*

Morgan: Die!

Luffy: !

SFX: *Krak-Kaching!!*

Koby: !!!

Yikes!!

That's way too sharp!!!

Chapter 6, page 16 – 17

Luffy kicks Morgan to the ground.

SFX: *Swp...*

Morgan: Gah!!!

SFX: *Smack!*
Ththud!!

Morgan: ...!!

Marines: C-Captain!

Morgan recovers. Luffy dodges another swing of the axe.

Morgan: You little **bastard!**

SFX: *Zoom*

Morgan: I sentence you to death!!
!

SFX: *Wham!!*
Zwip

Chapter 6, page 18 – 19

Luffy: I'm not gonna die!

Morgan: ?!

Luffy knocks Morgan to the ground again. He stands over the captain, fist clenched.

SFX: *Smack!!*

Morgan: !!!

Koby: He's... so **strong!!!**

Marines: C-Captain Morgan's...
...*losing!!*

Luffy: You and your Marines...

SFX: *Grip*

Luffy: ...are ruining Koby's dream!

Morgan: !!!

Zoro: ...

Helmeppo: Stop!!!

Luffy punches Morgan again.

SFX: *Whack!*

Helmeppo: I said *stop*, you idiot!!!

Chapter 6, page 20 – 21

Helmeppo is aiming a pistol at Koby's head.

Helmeppo: Don't move if you value his life!!!
I'll shoot him dead if anyone moves!!!

SFX: *Huff huff*

Marines: Master Helmeppo...!!

Koby: Hey!! Mr Luffy!!
Don't hold back because of me!!
I don't care if I die!!!

Luffy: Yeah... I got it!
Better drop the pistol, *bastard son*, Koby's serious!!

Helmeppo: I said *don't move!!* I'll shoot!! I'm serious too!!
Fine, I'll just do it!!!

Koby: Behind you Mr Luffy!!!

Morgan is back on his feet, readying a swing of his axe.

Morgan: I'm the Marines' *great captain!!!*

Luffy: *Gum Gum...*

SFX: *Oooooohh*
Chak

Luffy: ...*Pistol!!!*
Helmeppo: ?!
Daddy, hurry up and...

Chapter 6, page 22 – 23

Luffy takes Helmeppo out with a stretchy long-range punch before he can pull the trigger.

SFX: *Thwack!!*
Helmeppo: Oof!!!

Morgan topples backward instead of attacking. Zoro has cut him down.

Luffy: Nice work...
...*Zoro!*
SFX: *Kadoom!!*
Zoro: No problem...
...*Captain!*
SFX: *Grin*

Chapter 7, page 1 – 2

Title: Chapter 7: Friends

Cover illustration: Luffy paints a jolly roger on a bear while Zoro sleeps.

Zoro sheathes his blades. Morgan lies motionless between him and Luffy.

Marines: The captain lost!!!
Captain Morgan has been defeated!!!
SFX: *Don!*
Chack...
Zoro: Anyone still want to arrest us?!
Marines: ...!

Chapter 7, page 3 – 4

Marines: Hooray!!!
We're free!!!

Morgan's reign of terror is over!!!
Long live the Marines!!!

SFX: *Yeeeeeah*

Luffy: Weird.
They're acting **happy** we beat their captain.

Koby: ...Of course!
They were all just **scared** of Morgan!!

Zoro collapses.

SFX: *Thud!!!*

Luffy: Zoro?!

Koby: Mr Zoro!!

Later, in town. Luffy, Zoro and Koby eat at Rika and her mother's place. Townsfolk stare through the window.

SFX: *Chatter chatter*
Murmer murmer

Zoro: That hit the spot!!!
I hadn't eaten in **nine days**, I almost starved to death!!

SFX: *Ahh*
Murmer murmer

Luffy: Then you never would've gone a month!

SFX: *Munch munch*

Zoro: You seem even hungrier than I am.

Koby: Thank you so much for feeding us all. Even though I didn't really do anything...

Ririka: Don't worry about it! After all, you saved the town!

Rika: You were **great!**

Luffy: Yeah, I **am** great!
And I'm gonna get **even greater!**

SFX: *Grin*

Zoro: Anyway.
What's next?

Chapter 7, page 5 – 6

Luffy: I'm going to the *Grand Line*!

Koby: ?!!!
What?
You're being crazy again!!!
You can't go to the *Grand Line* with only two people!! You'll just get yourself killed!!!
Don't you get it?! All the *greatest pirates in the world* sail that ocean!!

Zoro: If we're going after the *One Piece*...
...we probably don't have a choice.

Koby: You're agreeing with him, Mr Zoro?!!

Zoro: Who cares? You're not going.

Koby: Y-yeah... I may not be going!! But I'm worried about you!!
Is that so wrong?!!
I care about you guys!!!

SFX: *Slam! Slam!!*

Zoro: I didn't mean...

Koby: Mr Luffy!! We haven't known each other for very long...
...but we're *friends*, aren't we?!!!

Luffy: !
Yeah, even if we don't sail together...
...we'll always be *friends*!

Koby: I never really had friends growing up.
Definitely none who would stick up for me.
I never even stuck up for me!!

Chapter 7, page 7 – 8

Koby: But the two of you...!!
You taught me how to fight for my own dreams!!!

Luffy: That's why we're going to the *Grand Line*.

Zoro: Exactly.

Koby: Oh. Right.
No!! I'm telling you it's still too reckless!

Zoro: What about *you*?

Koby: Huh?

SFX: *Donk*

Zoro: Cabin boy or not, you were a **pirate** in Alvida's crew for two years.
Don't underestimate the Marines' **Intelligence Division**.
They won't let you enlist if they learn about that.

The Marines' new commander, Ripper, arrives with a squad of sailors.

Ripper: Excuse me!

SFX: *Creak!!*

Luffy: !

Ripper: Is it true that you gentlemen...
...are **pirates**?

Luffy: Yup, I just found my **first crewmate**!
So that makes me a real **pirate captain**!

Ripper: You men have saved our branch and our town.
For that, we are truly grateful.
But now that we know you're **pirates**...
...we as **Marines** cannot shelter you here.

Chapter 7, page 9 – 10

Ripper: Please leave this town immediately.
To show our gratitude, we will not report you to **headquarters**.

Crowd: Hey Marines!! What the hell is this??!
Morgan oppressed you the same as the rest of us!!
they're your saviours too!!

SFX: *Rabble rabble*

Luffy: Alright... let's go.
Thanks for the food, lady.

Zoro: ...

Koby: Mr Luffy...

Rika: Do you really have to go?

SFX: *Swsh!*

Koby: !
...!!

Ripper: You're not leaving?

Koby: Oh!
I'm...!!
I'm...!!

Luffy: Even if we don't sail together... we'll always be *friends!*

Koby: I'm...
I'm not with them!!!

Ripper: ...!
Hold on, you two!!

Chapter 7, page 11 – 12

Ripper: Is that true?

Luffy: ...
I know this guy.
Up until the other day he was...

Koby: !
Mr Luffy...?!

(You wouldn't...!!)

Luffy: ...living on an island, I don't remember where it was...
...with this *big fat pirate lady*...
...I think her name was *Alvida*...

Koby: Stop!
(If they find out I worked on a pirate ship... I'll never be a Marine!!!)
Please, no more...

Ripper: ...

Luffy: ...and she was really mean too...
...and this guy spent *two whole years*...

Koby: (Please stop!! Please stop...!!!)

Koby punches Luffy.

Koby: Shut up!!!!

SFX: *Kerpow*

Ripper: ?!!

Chapter 7, page 13 – 14

Luffy grins as he reels from the blow.

Ripper: ...!!

Koby: ...!!!

Zoro: ...

He hits back, striking Koby again and again until he lies stunned on the floor.

Luffy: You're gonna get it!

SFX: *Whack!!*

Koby: !!

Luffy: Take this!
And this!

Ripper: !

SFX: *Smack! Whack!! Pow!!*

Ripper: Enough of that!!!
We've seen too much violence in this town already!!!

Zoro: You made your point.
Leave him alone.

SFX: *Grab*

Ripper: I've seen enough to know you aren't associated!!!
Now hurry up and get out of here!!!

Chapter 7, page 15 - 16

Koby: (He did that on purpose!!! For my sake!!!)
(He kept talking...!!! To make me hit him...!!!)
...!!!
(He did it again...!! Even at the very end...)
(...I still needed his help!!!)

Zoro: Catch us if you can!

Marines: Hey!

SFX: *Murmur murmur*

Koby: (Nothing's changed at all!!!)
(I'm still helpless!! Or am I...?!!)

SFX: *Fwip*

Koby: (If I don't take this chance, it'll all be for nothing!!)

Koby: Please let me join the Marines!!!
I'll be your chore boy if I have to!! Just let me join!!!
(I can do it!! I can do this!!!)

Marines: ***Commander!*** I'm against it!
We don't know enough to trust him.

Koby: !

Marines: He wouldn't be the first *spy* pirates have tried to plant in the Marines.
We need to do a full background check...

Koby: ...

Chapter 7, page 17 – 18

Koby: Someday!!!
I'm going to be a ***Marine Officer!!!!***

SFX: *Don!*

Ripper: ...
Pirates have killed more friends than I can count.
Don't commit to this life lightly.
You're approved for enlistment.

SFX: *Tap tap*

Koby: Yes sir!
Thank you sir!!

At the town's port. Luffy gets his boat ready to depart.

Zoro: You're a pretty bad actor.
They'll definitely work it out.

Luffy: It's fine, Koby'll manage somehow!

Zoro: Good time to leave, now that you've made us a public nuisance.
You act like ***such*** a ***pirate***.

Luffy: Hahaha yeah!

Koby races to catch up with the duo.

Koby: Mr...!
Mr...!
Mr Luffy!!

Luffy: It's Koby.

Chapter 7, page 19 – 20

Koby salutes.

Koby: Thank you very much!!!

I'll never forget everything you did for me!!!

SFX: *Bam!!*

Zoro: I've never seen a marine salute a pirate before.

Luffy: Shishishishi!

We'll meet again, Koby!!!

The whole squad of Marines have appeared behind Koby. They also salute.

Ripper: Fall in!!

SFX: *Hup ?!*

Koby: Huh?!

SFX: *Roar*

Ripper: You have good friends.

Koby: !
Yes, sir!

Ripper: That salute was a glaring violation of the code of conduct.
As punishment, no rations for one week!!!

Marines: Yes sir!!!

SFX: *Hup*

Luffy: Yeah, let's go!!
Grand Line here we come!!!

Narration: Luffy set sail with his first crewmate, "**Pirate Hunter**" Zoro...
Both of them unaware of the **grievous mistake** they'd just made.

Pirate Era recap

Recap illustration: A group of pirates, including Shanks and Buggy, their faces cast with shadows, look over a bloodstained map.

Text: **The Great Pirate Era**

An age of history dominated by the hunt for the **One Piece**, the legendary treasure left behind by **Gold Roger**, the only man ever to be recognised as **King of the Pirates**. Men beyond number flew pirate flags and joined the battle for fortune and glory. It was a **golden age**...

Chapter 8, page 1

Title: Chapter 8: Introducing Nami

Cover illustration: A flock of panda-like birds roost on Luffy and Zoro's boat.

Chapter 8, page 2 – 3

Luffy and Zoro drift across a vast sea on their little boat.

Luffy: Ah... I'm starving...

Zoro: ...

You don't see how it's weird that you set out with absolutely no idea how to **navigate**?

Luffy: Nope. I've always just drifted around!

What about you? You're meant to be the great **Pirate Hunter**.

Zoro: I didn't choose the name, people just call me that.

I went out to sea to look for **this one guy**...

...and couldn't figure out how to get back home again.

I had to make a living somehow...

...so I started hunting down bounties.

Luffy: So you got lost?

Zoro: **You're** the one who's lost!!

Anyway, you're the one calling yourself a **pirate** when you can't even navigate a ship!

We'll never get to the **Grand Line** like this.

You need to hurry up and recruit a **navigator**.

Luffy: And a **cook** and a **musician** and a...

Zoro: Those can wait!!

Crew: I'm starving!

SFX: *Flop flop*

Chapter 8, page 4 – 5

Zoro: Hey...
There's a bird.

Luffy: I bet it's tasty...

SFX: *Flap*
Flap flap

Luffy: Let's eat the bird!!

SFX: *Shup*

Zoro: How'd you plan to...?

Luffy uses the mast to slingshot himself into the sky.

Luffy: I'll go get it! watch this!!
Gum Gum...

SFX: Streeeeetch
Grab

Luffy: ...**Rocket!!!**

Zoro: !

SFX: *Whoosh!*
Flap flap

Zoro: Didn't see that coming...

The bird turns out to be much larger than its silhouette suggested.

SFX: *Chomp!*

Luffy: Ack!

Zoro: Huh?!

The bird flies away with Luffy. In a panic, Zoro takes up the oars and gives chase.

Luffy: Aaaaaaa!
Help me!

Zoro: You idiot!!!

SFX: *Flap flap*
Aaaaaaaaaa

Zoro: What the hell are you doing?
Damn it!!!

SFX: *Aaaaaa*
Creak creak creak

Chapter 8, page 6 – 7

A trio of pirates in the water wave for help.

Funan Bros: Hey! Stop the boat!!
Pick us up!!

Zoro: Huh?!
Castaways, now??!

SFX: *Creak creak*
Aaaaaa

Zoro: I can't stop, just grab on!!

Funan Bros: Hey!!
Are you serious??!

SFX: *Splash splash splash*

Funan Bros: Oof!
Aaargh!!

SFX: *Splash splash splonk!!*
Grab

Zoro: Great! You made it!

Funan Bros: You nearly ran us over!!

SFX: *Creak creak*

Funan Bros: Huff huff...
Reckless bastard!!

One of the pirates draws a knife.

Funan Bros: Now...
...stop the boat.
We're part of *Buggy the Clown*'s crew.

SFX: *Shing!!*

Zoro: Oh yeah?!

Chapter 8, page 8 – 9

Moments later, the pirates are beaten and bruised.

Funan Bros: Hohohohoho!

We're very sorry, sir! If we'd **known** that "**Pirate Hunter**" Zoro was aboard we wouldn'ta tried it!

SFX: *Creak! Creak!!*

One two one two

Zoro: I lost my friend because of you jerks.

Shut up and row. He'll probably get down when he's over land.

SFX: *Creak! Creak!*

Zoro: So, how'd you three pirates end up drifting in the middle of the ocean?

Funan Bros: I'll tell you how!! Glad you asked!!

It all started with **the girl!!**

Yeah, it was all **the girl's** fault!!!

She was a **real hottie** though!!

The one who called the girl hot is struck by his brother. The third pirate continues the story.

Funan Bros: We were on our way back from a **raid** on a **merchant ship**.

...!

Flashback begins. The castaway trio sail a small boat with a pirate flag, gloating over an overflowing treasure chest. They spot another ship with a young woman, Nami, draped over the railing.

Funan Bros: Hahahaha!!

We got some **real treasure** this time!!

Not bad from such a tiny ship!!

Captain Buggy'll hafta give us a **big reward** for this!!

Huh?

Another boat!

Someone's passed out over the side.

Chapter 8, page 10 – 11

The two boats pull up to each other. Nami appears exhausted and weak, trembling as she speaks. Her vessel has a single closed treasure chest on the deck.

Funan Bros: Ooh, a *girl*?

Hey girlie! What's wrong, are you dead?

Nami: Aah... Oh, I must be dreaming...

I can't believe... I actually ran into someone... all the way out here...

W-whoever you are... Please...

Could you spare... a drop of water?

And maybe... a scrap of bread?

I was in a terrible shipwreck....!!

I can give you money... As much as you want...

I just need... some help...

Funan Bros: We'll help ya alright!

Can we get a closer look at that *chest* first?

SFX: *Leer*

Nami: Come aboard... Take what you need to...

But please... Water....!!

Funan Bros: Don't rush us!! We gotta scope out the *treasure* first!

Yeah! We're saving your life, ain't we??!

SFX: *Haha*

Klomp!

Nami has leapt to the pirates' ship and is sailing it away. She's completely perked up now.

Nami: If you want it that badly...

...you can keep the *whole boat* too!

SFX: *Grin*

Funan Bros: What??!

Our ship!! And our *treasure*!!

Her chest is *empty*!!!

Chapter 8, page 12 – 13

Nami spots a change in the weather behind her old boat.

Nami: *Low, dark clouds* coming in from the south...

Funan Bros: ?!

Nami: That's a *cold front*!!

Which means a strong chance of a *cloudburst*...

SFX: *Shooo*

Nami: ...accompanied by a *squall*.²⁷
Small vessels should take precautions against *capsizing!!*

A sudden storm sinks the small boat, dunking the three pirates into the sea.

Funan Bros: !!!!
Aaargh!!

SFX: *Fwooosh*

Nami: Bingo!

Nami: So long, and thanks for the *treasure*!

SFX: *Fwap!*

Funan Bros: That... that sneaky bitch tricked us!!!
You'll pay for this!!!

SFX: *Shaaaaa*

Flashback ends.

Funan Bros: And that's what happened!
Pretty bad, huh?!

Zoro: If she can *use the weather* like that... she must know a helluva lot about the sea!
Wonder if she'd be our *navigator*.

Funan Bros: She'll be *dead* when I find her!!
Whadda we do about the *treasure*?
We can't go back to *Captain Buggy* like this!!

Zoro: Who the hell's Buggy?!

Funan Bros: He's our captain. You tellin' me you seriously never heard of *Buggy the Clown*?
He's dangerous! He ate one of them *Devil Fruits*!!

Zoro: ...A *Devil Fruit*...?

²⁷ Nami uses accurate meteorological terms to the best of my ability. A cold front is formed by a mass of cold air moving into an area where warmer air is present, often causing strong vertical cloud formations as well as showers and thunderstorms. A cloudburst is meteorological phenomenon involving an extreme amount of precipitation in a short time, sometimes accompanied by hail and thunder, while a squall is a sudden localised storm.

Chapter 8, page 14 – 15

A lavish pirate ship floats at the port of a wealthy-looking but empty town. A group of pirates, the Domingos, chase Nami through the streets.

SFX: *Don!*
Dadoom!

Domingos: You can't get away!!
Thief, give us back the *map!!!*

SFX: *Taptaptaptap*

Nami: Huff! Huff!

SFX: *Taptaptaptaptap*

Nami: I finally got it!
A *map* of the *Grand Line*!!²⁸

SFX: *Scrunch*

Domingos: Shit!! We're dead meat if we don't get that map back!!
I'm not gonna be lined up in front of some *cannon*!

SFX: *Stomp stomp stomp stomp*

A pirate looking through binoculars spots Luffy and the bird in the sky.

Pirate: *Captain Buggy!* There's *something weird* flying over the town!

Buggy: Then shoot it down with the *cannon*.

Pirate: Aye, Cap'n!!

SFX: *Aaaaaaaa*

Chapter 8, page 16 – 17

An explosion blows Luffy and the bird apart. He lands between Nami and the pirates.

Luffy: Argh!

Domingos: ?!!

SFX: *Kaboom!!*

Domingos: ?!

²⁸ There is some ambiguity about whether Nami has found a map of the Grand Line or simply one leading to it. Given what we will later learn of the Grand Line's location and importance in the world of One Piece, it wouldn't make much sense for a map only showing its location to be so coveted.

SFX: *Yaaaaaaaaaa*
Crash

Domingos: Aaaah!

Nami: Eeek!

Domingos: Someone...
...fell from the sky!!!

Nami: What...?

Luffy: What'd they have to shoot me for?!
Owch!

SFX: *Fss fss*

Domingos: Aah! He's alive!!!

Luffy: Yup!
I'm still alive!!

Nami: ?!

SFX: *Don!*

Nami: !
...
Aha!! *Boss!!*
You came to rescue me?!

Nami speeds off as the Domingos surround Luffy.

Nami: I'll leave it to you!!

Domingos: She's getting away again!
Forget the girl!!

SFX: *Zip*

Domingos: Focus on her **boss** instead.
Yeah... He's one better than her.

Luffy: ?

SFX: *Loom*

Chapter 8, page 18 – 19

A pirate smacks Luffy's head, sending his hat flying.

Domingos: Ain't that right, **Boss**??!

Luffy: !

SFX: *Whap*

Domingos: That map belongs to the infamous ***Buggy the Clown!!!***

Luffy: Hey!

Luffy punches the pirate out and catches his hat.

SFX: *Wham!*

Domingos: !!!
Woah...!

SFX: *Thud!*

Luffy: Don't you ***dare...***
...touch my ***hat!***

SFX: *Plop*

The remaining pirates attack, and are moments later laid out on the ground.

Domingos: You...
You bastard!!!

SFX: *Grrrr*

Nami: Amazing!
You're really tough!
All those guys with ***swords*** and you beat them with your ***bare hands!***

Luffy: Ah! Who're you?

Nami: I'm a ***thief*** who steals from ***pirates!!***
My name's ***Nami***. Wanna ***team up?***

Luffy: You steal from pirates?

End line: [1] Romance Dawn - The Adventure Begins (End)