Kensuke’s Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo - Answers

**Chapter One – Part 1**

**Page 1**

1. Kensuke made him promise not to tell anyone until at least 10 years had passed.

**Page2/3**

1. His mum, dad and their dog Stella Artois.

3. His dad was often in a playful mood and called him Monkey face; he was happy at St Joseph’s school; he had good friends and played football with them lots; he earned money to buy things with; he had special times with his family on Sunday’s – dinghy sailing.

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4. Visiting teams expected the ball to bounce but it didn’t and the Mudlarks new that so had an advantage.

5. The whole family went dinghy sailing.

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 6. He was the happiest and he loved it.

 7.The air was clear and clean; dad enjoyed fixing the boat; they loved the exhilaration of going fast; they loved the quietness when there was no wind – they’d fish.

8. No type of weather!

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9. Mum and dad started arguing; dad stopped fixing things which we know he had enjoyed doing; he started drinking a lot in the pub; he didn’t speak much anymore and just sat reading.

 10. We know that suddenly, the letter changes something.

11. Michael has described the happiness in his household but it suddenly changes to an unhappiness/misery

12. Mum and dad had too much on their minds; to worried about lack of employment.

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**Chapter One – Part 2**

**Page 6**

 13. Dad’s had enough. He needs to get away to think about what he can do to solve the current situation. He has a plan.

**Page 7**

 14. For – Closer to Eddie; might help Dad out of his depression; Against – Mum doesn’t want to leave the house; Gran lives near them and they’d be moving away from her; Michael would have to change school; Mum was born where they live and she’s getting upset at the thought of moving away.

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15. A yacht.

**Page 9**

16. Answers will vary.

**Page 10**

17. That all they’ve ever done is dinghy sailing. That he’s gone crazy, loopy in the head. That it’s dangerous. That they’ll be flat broke.

18. A year to 18 months

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19. Mum. Dad. Michael. Stella

20. Mum will get her yacht master’s certificate; they’re all going to do 6 months of training; they’ll do some trips across the channel.

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21. Ridiculous, reckless, irresponsible? She was full of doom and gloom about the trip; she tried to frighten Michael with horror stories about what could happen.

**Page 13**

 22. A barnacle is a sea creature and Bill is a mariner/sailor.

**Page 14-15**

 23. gritty, tyrant, brilliant.

**Page 15**

 24. To show that they had everything they needed. That the boat was completely packed – cupboards, draws, shelves, gaps filled.