Name/s:_	

## Whaling Jobs: Financing a Whaling Voyage

- 1. Who supplied money for whaling ships?
- 2. What was the "lay" system of dividing profits and how did this system help to protect investors from financial ruin?

3. What does the lay system reveal about which positions were considered most valuable on the voyage of the Virginia?

Name/s:	

## Whaling Jobs: Capturing the Whale

1. What was a Nantucket Sleigh-Ride?

2. In <u>Moby-Dick</u>, Herman Melville writes, "It is the harpooner that makes the voyage." What do you think this statement means? Do you agree or disagree?

3. The crew list for the whale ship Virginia indicates that the harpooner (or boatsteerer) was paid slightly less than the  $4^{th}$  mate. Does this seem a fair pay rate? Why or why not?

## **Whaling Jobs: Coopering**

1. Why was the cooper so important to whaling?

2. How much of the whaling ship was devoted to the cooper's supplies and completed barrels?

3. If you had been William Bradley, do you think that coopering would have been better than digging for gold? Why or why not?

Name/s:_	

## **Whaling Jobs: Food**

1. What would have been a typical meal on board a whale ship? Why?

2. What do you notice about food provisions acquired for a whaling voyage?

3. One whaleman in his journal explained, "It was a common practice to soak the bread in hot tea or coffee in order to scald out the worms which were then skimmed off before drinking." What discoveries or inventions allow for better eating on today's boats?