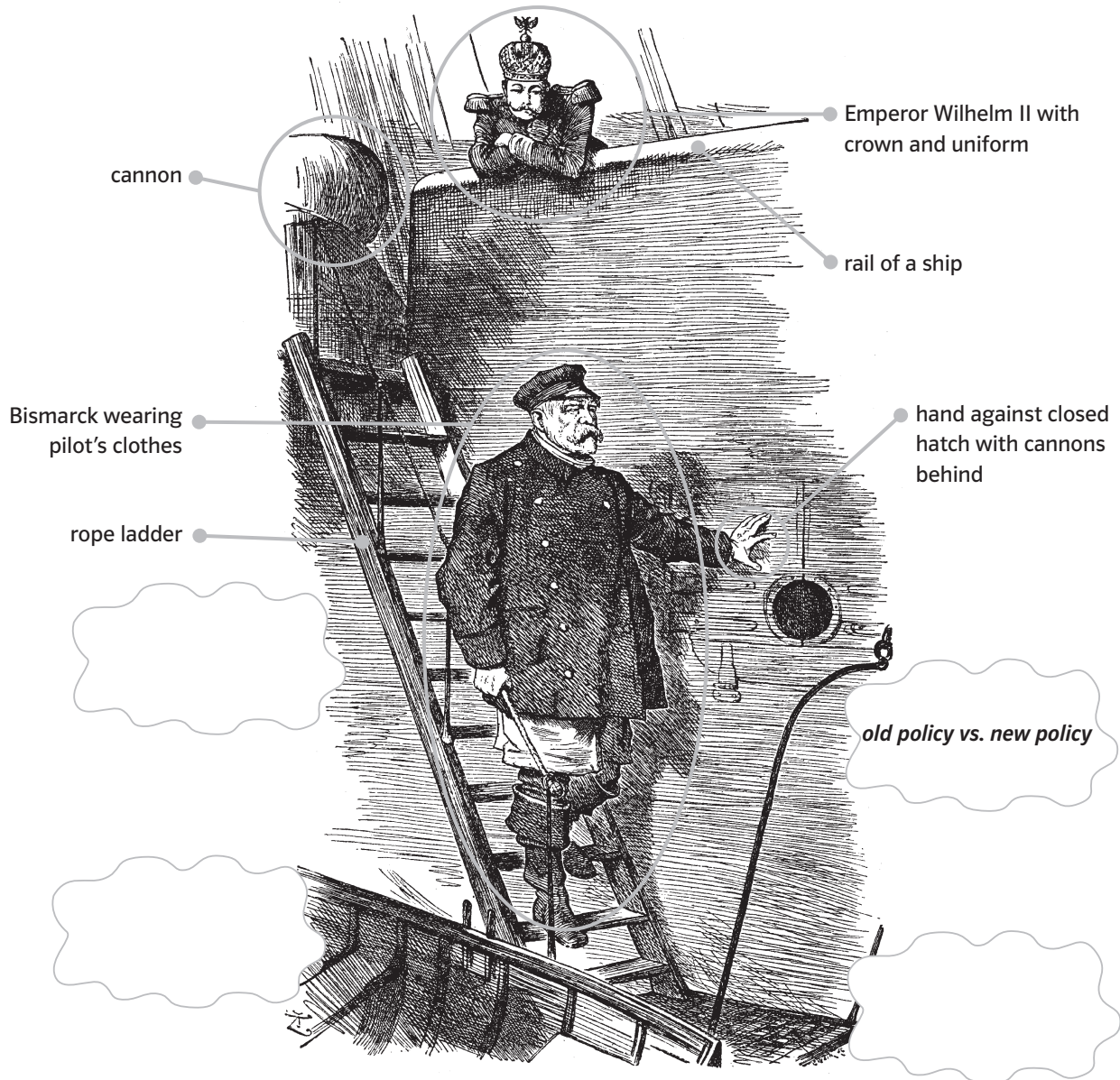


“Dropping the Pilot” – a political cartoon

Analyse and interpret this cartoon step by step:



Q1 “Dropping the Pilot” by Sir John Tenniel, published in the “Punch” – a weekly magazine of satire – on 20th March, 1890. A few days earlier Bismarck was dropped* as Imperial Chancellor by Emperor Wilhelm II.
*to drop = entlassen, fallen lassen

1. Try to find the basic information: Title/Artist/Where & when published.

1 hier: Lotse

2. Write what and who you can see in the cartoon: Describe the persons: What are they doing/wearing? Tell something about their pose²/mimic. Are there any symbols used? Important: Do not interpret too much on this step.

3. Try to interpret the cartoon: Describe the historical background of the cartoon. Find out what the cartoonist wants to express. Why did he draw Bismarck as a pilot? What does he think might happen in the future (after 1890)? (The opposite terms in the clouds could also help you!)

4. What do you think about the cartoon?

5. The German title of this cartoon is „Der Lotse geht von Bord“ – What do you think about this translation?

² pose: Körperhaltung