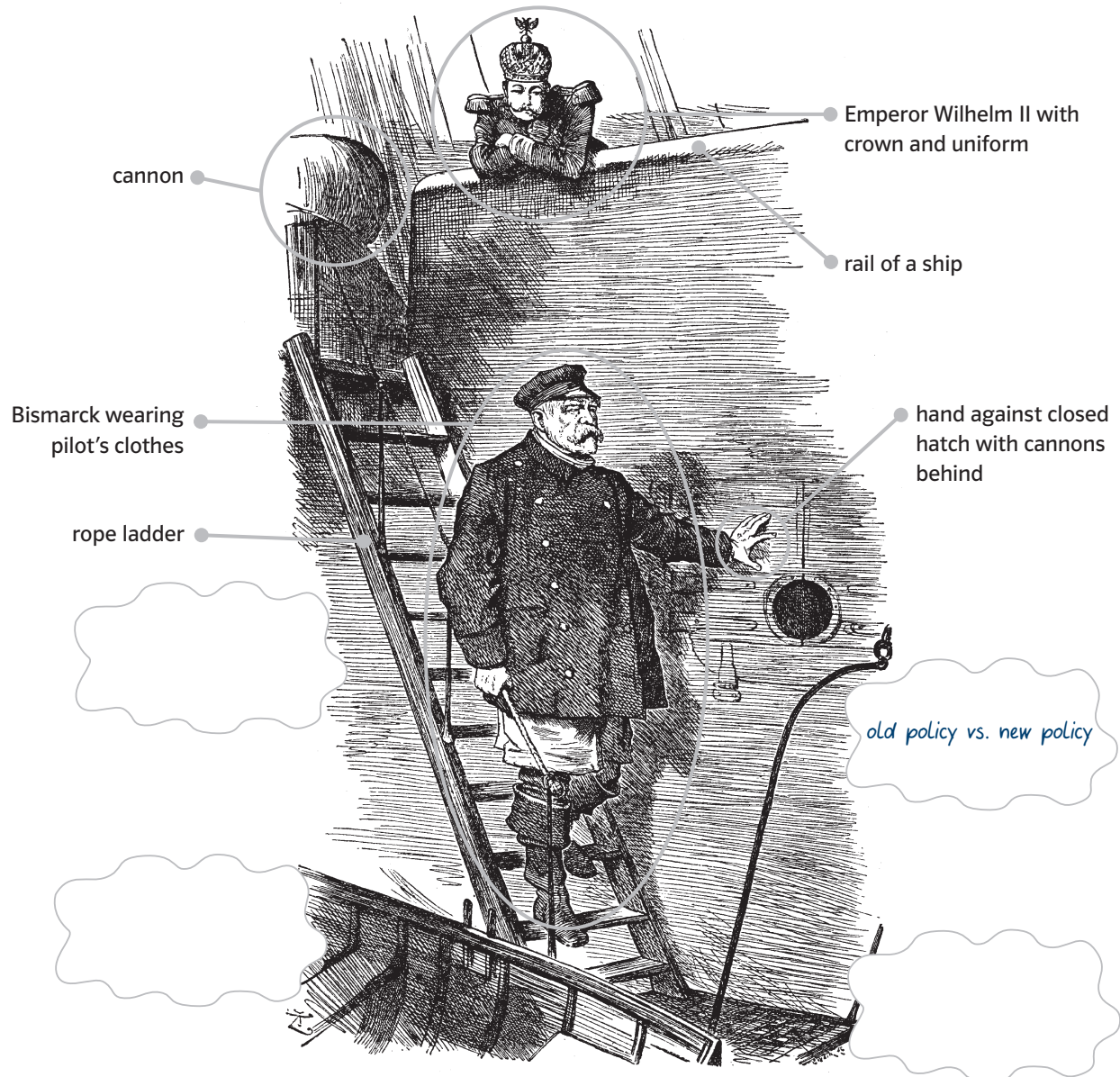


# “Dropping the Pilot”<sup>1</sup> – a political cartoon

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.

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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 pose<sup>2</sup>/mimic. Are there any symbols used? Important: Do not interpret too much on this step.

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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!)

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4. What do you think about the cartoon?

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

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<sup>2</sup> pose: Körperhaltung