

Part I—The Old Buccaneer

Chapters 1–6

Vocabulary:

Many words have more than one meaning. Often we can use the *context* of a word—the words and sentences around it—to determine its meaning. A word is in context if we read it in the sentence in which it was written. It is out of context when it is by itself. The following underlined words are shown in the context of the sentences in which they appear in the book. Read the sentences and choose the definition of the underlined words.

- _____ 1. "This, when it was brought to him, he drank slowly, like a connoisseur, lingering on the taste, and still looking about him at the cliffs and up at our signboard."
- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| a. neighbor or friend | b. rock climber |
| c. expert or specialist | d. artist or sculptor |
- _____ 2. "I paid pretty dear for my monthly fourpenny piece, in the shape of these abominable fancies."
- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| a. favorite | b. perfect |
| c. lazy | d. dreadful |
- _____ 3. "He was a pale, tallowy creature, wanting two fingers of the left hand; and, though he wore a cutlass, he did not look much like a fighter."
- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| a. skinny, lanky, thin | b. yellowish-white; pallid; pale |
| c. weak, lame | d. unfriendly, remote |

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- _____ 4. "Ah, Bill, Bill, we have seen a sight of times, us two, since I lost them two talons," holding up his mutilated hand.
- a. arthritic
 - b. soiled, unclean
 - c. maimed, injured
 - d. pointing, accusing
- _____ 5. "The neighbourhood, to our ears, seemed haunted by approaching foot-steps; and what between the dead body of the captain on the parlour floor, and the thought of that derestable blind beggar hovering near at hand, and ready to return, there were moments when, as the saying goes, I jumped in my skin for terror."
- a. lovable
 - b. friendly
 - c. hateful
 - d. populous
- _____ 6. "Overcoming a strong repugnance, I tore open his shirt at the neck, and there, sure enough, hanging to a bit of tarry string, which I cut with his own gully, we found the key."
- a. carelessness
 - b. disgust
 - c. attraction
 - d. fist
- _____ 7. "Four or five of them obeyed at once, two remaining on the road with the formidable beggar."
- a. worthless
 - b. frightening
 - c. formal
 - d. shy
- _____ 8. "This appeal seemed to produce some effect, for two of the fellows began to look here and there among the lumber, but half-heartedly, I thought, and with half an eye to their own danger all the time, while the rest stood irresolute on the road."
- a. hesitating
 - b. frightened
 - c. rebellious
 - d. unmoving
- _____ 9. "'Come in, Mr. Dance,' says he, very stately and condescending."
- a. haughty
 - b. humble
 - c. curious
 - d. diligent

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- ### Questions:

- 14

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3. What effect does meeting Black Dog have on Billy Bones?

4. Billy tells Jim he had been first mate to Flint. Who is Flint?

5. Why might Robert Louis Stevenson have used a blind man to deliver the "black spot" to Billy Bones?

6. What did Jim and his mother find when they returned to the Admiral Benbow after they ran to town?

7. Jim's mother is the only female we meet in *Treasure Island*. Her obstinacy intensifies the suspense in their plight to gain what the captain owes them and still get safely away from the inn. Jim says, "How I blamed my poor mother for her honesty and her greed, for her past foolhardiness and present weakness!" What does he mean by each of these charges?

Thinking About the Story:

8. The *mood* of a story is the feeling or emotion an author evokes in the reader through the use of sensory words or phrases. What words or phrases in the opening chapter set the mood for the book? What mood do these words and phrases create?

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9. *Foreshadowing* is a technique authors use to prepare us for a change or coming event in the book or lives of the characters. It creates a sense of warning or expectancy. Look at the last four paragraphs in Chapter 6. Who does Dr. Livesey say is the one man he is afraid of and why? What does the squire promise? Do you believe him?
10. Why do you think Jim cries after the captain's death rather than after his father's death?

11. A *dialect* is a regional variety of language. In this story, the spelling and grammar in the sentences spoken by Billy Bones and the other pirates are written in dialect so that the reader can get a sense of the way they sound. This can also give the reader a clue about what place and time period the story is set.

Using standard spelling and grammar, rewrite the sentences below that were spoken by the pirates.

Example: This is a handy cove," says he, "and a pleasant sittytated grog-shop.

"This is a handy cove," says he, "and a pleasantly situated bar."

- a. "You mought call me captain."
- b. "I have a son of my own," said he, "as like you as two blocks, and he's all the pride of my 'art."
- c. "I'll shake out another reef, matey, and daddie 'em again."

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12. After Jim's and Mrs. Hawkins' failed attempt to get help from the men in the village, the author says, "They say cowardice is infectious, but then argument is, on the other hand, a great emboldener. . . ." What is meant by "cowardice is infectious, but argument is a great emboldener"?

Dig Deeper:

13. Our true character is what we do when no one is looking. Jim's mother is courageous and honest. Her courage is seen when she returned to the Admiral Benbow with no help from the men in the village, determined to get the money owed her for Billy Bones' stay at the inn, despite her fear of the pirates who were sure to return. Her integrity is shown when she "would not consent to take a fraction more than was due her." Read the following passages: 2 Chronicles 16:9; Job 34:21–22; Psalm 34:15; Proverbs 5:21, 15:3. What do these verses tell us about our actions?
14. Following his stroke, Billy Bones is warned to stop drinking rum by Dr. Livesey. Too weak to get it for himself, he asks Jim to get it for him. What is Jim's initial response regarding Billy Bones' request? When Billy continues to beg, Jim finally consents to bring him one glass. What justification does Jim give for obeying Billy rather than the doctor?
15. Read Psalm 119:9–11 and 1 Corinthians 10:13. How can we stand strong when pressured to do what is wrong?

Part II—The Sea Cook

Chapters 7–12

Vocabulary:

The *synonym* of a word is another word that has the same or nearly the same meaning as the original word. Choose the word from the box below that completes each sentence. Not all words will be used. One or more synonyms for the missing word is given in parentheses.

Word Box

agitated	anecdote	anticipations	simultaneously	lament
avowed	burnished	calumnies	commentary	mutiny
congregated	corruption	countenance	prosperous	duplicity
	immortal		indomitable	

1. "I lived on at the Hall under the charge of old Redruth, the gamekeeper, almost a prisoner, but full of sea-dreams and the most charming _____ (*expectations*) of strange islands and adventures."
2. "At that I gave up all attempt at _____ (*remarks*) and read straight on."
3. "They go the length of declaring that this honest creature would do anything for money, that the *Hispaniola* belonged to him, and that he sold it to me absurdly high—the most transparent of _____ (*slander*)."
4. "Long John Silver, he is called, and has lost a leg; but that I regarded as a recommendation, since he lost it in his country's service, under the _____ (*famous forever*) Hawke."

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5. "Between Silver and myself we got together in a few days a company of the toughest old salts imaginable—not pretty to look at, but fellows, by their faces, of the most _____ (*unconquerable*) spirit."
6. "I was half beside myself with glee; and if ever I despised a man, it was old Tom Redruth, who could do nothing but grumble and _____ (*grieve, bewail*)."
7. "On our little walk along the quays, he made himself the most interesting companion, telling me about the different ships that we passed by, their rig, tonnage, and nationality, explaining the work that was going forward—how one was discharging, another taking in cargo, and a third making ready for sea—and every now and then telling me some little _____ (*tale*) of ships or seamen or repeating a nautical phrase till I had learned it perfectly."
8. "To me he was unweariedly kind, and always glad to see me in the galley, which he kept as clean as a new pin, the dishes hanging up _____ (*polished*) and his parrot in a cage in one corner."
9. "By a 'gentleman of fortune' they plainly meant neither more nor less than a common pirate, and the little scene that I had overheard was the last act in the _____ (*turning to evil*) of one of the honest hands—perhaps of the last one left aboard."
10. "There all hands were already _____ (*gathered*)."
11. "A belt of fog had lifted almost _____ (*together*) with the appearance of the moon."
12. "I was surprised at the coolness with which John _____ (*affirmed*) his knowledge of the island. . . ."
13. "He did not know, to be sure, that I had overheard his council from the apple barrel, and yet I had, by this time, taken such a horror of his cruelty, _____ (*deceit*), and power, that I could scarce conceal a shudder when he laid his hand upon my arm."
14. "The doctor changed _____ (*expression*) a little, but next moment he was master of himself."

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15. "I found them all three seated round the table, a bottle of Spanish wine and some raisins before them, and the doctor smoking away, with his wig on his lap, and that, I knew, was a sign that he was _____ (*upset*)."

Questions:

1. Who helps Squire Trelawney find a crew for the ship and what does he do regarding two of the crew already hired?
2. What is Jim's overall impression of Long John Silver at the end of Chapter 7?
3. What changes does Captain Smollett demand before they sail?
4. The pirates are anxious to kill the doctor, squire, and the captain, but Long John Silver answers they will wait "till I give the word. . . ." Why does Long John Silver want to wait until they are half way back to kill Captain Smollett?
5. What is the one thing Long John Silver claims the right to do, when the time comes to kill the captain, the squire, and the doctor?
6. What saves Jim from being discovered in the barrel and gives him the opportunity to escape and warn the captain, doctor, and squire?

Thinking About the Story:

7. In Chapter 10, with the voyage just underway and the true character of the crew still unknown, how does Stevenson use the sea shanty, "*Fifteen men on the dead man's chest*," as a type of foreshadowing?
8. After Jim tells the doctor, squire, and captain what he's heard in the apple barrel, whom does the doctor say can help them more than anyone? Why? What is Jim's reaction?
9. *Pace* is the rhythm of a story or the speed of the action in a story. The pace of a story varies depending on the story structure. For example, the climax of an adventure narrative will unfold at a brisk pace. The writer deliberately creates this pace with short, punchy sentences built on strong, transitional verbs. In general, pace is a complex mix of word choice; length of sentences, paragraphs and sections; transitions; and structure and sequencing.

A *transition* is a passage in a piece of writing that smoothly connects two topics or sections to each other. How does Stevenson use Jim's time in the apple barrel and the sighting of the island to transition and increase the tension and pace?
10. In literature, the term *stereotype* refers to a character with exaggerated characteristics intended to represent all members of his or her group. A stereotype is a widely believed but unchanging and oversimplified image or idea of a particular type of person or thing. How is the stereotypical pirate portrayed in common culture? Choose one or two quotes from Chapters 7–12 to show what Long John Silver is like. Is he stereotypical? Why or why not?

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11. *Idioms* are sayings that don't literally mean what the words mean. If someone says he is "really beat" we know that he means he is tired, rather than that he has been beaten by someone, or to be "wet behind the ears" means to be inexperienced, not to actually have water behind your ears. When an author writes using idioms, the language of the story sounds more true to life. Underlined in the sentences below are some of the idioms found in the story. After each, write what the words mean literally, and what we understand them to mean *contextually*, or in the context of the sentence.

- a. I am afraid I led that boy a dog's life; for as he was new to the work, I had a hundred opportunities of setting him right and putting him down, and I was not slow to profit by them.

Literal Meaning:

Understood Meaning:

- b. You're a lad, you are, but you're as smart as paint.

Literal Meaning:

Understood Meaning:

- c. Oh, I know'd Dick was square.

Literal Meaning:

Understood Meaning:

- d. Long John's eyes burned in his head as he took the chart; but, by the fresh look of the paper, I knew he was doomed to disappointment.

Literal Meaning:

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Understood Meaning:

Dig Deeper:

12. Other than finding a ship, what did Squire Trelawney's letter reveal he'd done in Bristol? Read Proverbs 17:28; Ecclesiastes 3:1, 7; and Proverbs 2:11. What do these verses say? How might things have gone differently if Trelawney had done what these verses teach?

13. When Jim overhears the mutiny plans while in the apple barrel, he immediately goes to the doctor, the squire, and the captain. Read Proverbs 15:22 and 19:20. What do these verses teach? How does this apply to this situation?

Part III—My Shore Adventure

Chapters 13–15

Vocabulary:

Write the words from the box below beside the correct definition. (Each word will be used only once.)

Word Box

uniform	configuration	melancholy	spires	amphitheatre
undulating	contorted	uninhabited	desperadoes	aperture
languor	pinnacle	extricate	nondescript	resolutely
		apparition		

1. determinedly, unyielding _____
2. the shape or form of something _____
3. sad, gloomy _____
4. the peak, the highest point of rock _____
5. an opening _____
6. lack of energy, stillness _____
7. a circular or oval place with rows of seats
around a central open space. Each row is
higher than the one in front of it. _____
8. bold, reckless villains _____
9. not lived in or upon _____
10. hard to describe due to lack of noticeable traits _____
11. to set free, release _____

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- 12. always the same, unchanging _____
- 13. twisted out of its usual shape _____
- 14. rolling, rising and falling _____
- 15. tapering, pointed part of a structure _____
- 16. the appearance of some supernatural sight
or strange thing _____

Questions:

- 1. How does Jim feel when he looks at the island and what idiom does he use that conveys his feelings?
- 2. How does the attitude of the sailors change after they reach the island?
- 3. Who does Captain Smollett say is the only man they can rely on? Why? What is Captain Smollett's plan?
- 4. Why does Tom refuse to join Silver? What happens when he refuses? What is Jim's reaction to what happens?
- 5. Why doesn't Jim return to the ship when the gun is fired signaling for all ashore to do so?

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Thinking About the Story:

6. Jim said, "Of all the gloomy features of that gloomy afternoon, this obvious anxiety on the part of Long John appeared the worst." Why is Silver's anxiety the worst bit of gloom this day? What might Silver be anxious about? What might this mean for Jim, the captain, Dr. Livesy and Squire Trelawney?

7. Why does Jim regret jumping in the boat when Silver finds out he is there?

8. Briefly describe Jim's meeting with Ben Gunn. How did his experience in watching Silver kill Tom prepare Jim to meet Ben Gunn?

9. A *simile* is a figure of speech in which words such as *like* or *as* are used to indicate that a comparison is being made. For example, "he fought *like* a lion." Authors sometimes use figures of speech to clarify the meaning of a thought or to paint a visual picture for readers. Finish the five following similes from the book and then write two of your own.

- a. This put me in a great fear, and I crawled under cover of the nearest live-oak, and squatted there, hearkening, _____
- b. If I hadn't took to you _____
do you think I'd have been here a-warning of you?
- c. "Silver," said the other man—and I observed he was not only red in the face, but spoke _____
and his voice shook, too, _____
..."
- d. He stood where he was, resting lightly on his crutch, watching his companion _____

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- e. Silver, agile _____
even without leg or crutch, was on the top of him next moment, and had
twice buried his knife up to the hilt in that defenceless body.
- ~~f.~~ your own simile:
- ~~g.~~ your own simile:

10. Authors use colorful and *descriptive language* to give the reader a “picture in words.” Vivid word choice, engaging our senses, creates vivid images in our minds. Words can evoke sights, sounds, smells, tastes, and feelings. Note how Stevenson uses this technique to paint a clear image of the island in the following excerpt. Underline at least two descriptive phrases. Which senses do these descriptions you underlined engage?

. . .—perhaps it was the look of the island, with its grey, melancholy woods, and wild stone spires, and the surf that we could both see and hear foaming and thundering on the steep beach—at least, although the sun shone bright and hot, and the shore birds were fishing and crying all around us. . . .

. . .

There was not a breath of air moving, nor a sound but that of the surf booming half a mile away along the beaches and against the rocks outside. A peculiar stagnant smell hung over the anchorage—a smell of sodden leaves and rotting tree trunks. I observed the doctor sniffing and sniffing, like some one tasting a bad egg.

11. Write a paragraph describing your favorite place. Use vivid descriptive language to bring this scene to life. Why is this location meaningful to you?

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Dig Deeper:

12. Jim's first view of the island is one of dread and discouragement, and the fear becomes stronger when he sees Silver murder a man. Read Deuteronomy 31:6; Lamentations 3:21–24; and Romans 8:35–39. In what way do these verses teach us to handle fear and discouragement?

Part IV—The Stockade

Chapters 16–21

Vocabulary:

Write down the definition of each of the words below. Then use each in a sentence to demonstrate your understanding of the meaning.

1. stench:

Your Sentence:

2. contrived:

Your Sentence:

3. reverently:

Your Sentence:

4. truce:

Your Sentence:

5. placid:

Your Sentence:

Treasure Island Study Guide

6. morass:

Your Sentence:

7. vigour:

Your Sentence:

8. imprecation:

Your Sentence:

9. civility:

Your Sentence:

Questions:

1. What does it mean that the captain had “run up the colours”? What possible consequences does this have and why do they all feel it worthwhile when he refuses to strike his colours?
2. What does Ben Gunn mean when he says, “Silver would fly the Jolly Roger”? What fact does this communicate to Ben Gunn?
3. Other than the dead and wounded pirates, what allies do Jim and his friends have?

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4. Of what does Silver accuse Captain Smollett and the others?
5. What offer does Silver make to Captain Smollett? What does Smollett counter offer?
6. Smollett reminds the pirates of their limitations. What are they?

Thinking About the Story:

7. How does Captain Smollett convince Abraham Gray to join them? How does this show the Captain's wisdom and his understanding of his men?
8. *Hubris* is a Greek word describing a pride so excessive that it must, necessarily, lead to a character's downfall. In what way does Long John Silver show this type of pride in Chapter 20? How might this foreshadow his downfall?

9. *Point of view* is the perspective or position from which a story is being told. *First-person narrative* means the story is told by one of the characters in the story. The action of the story and the feelings of the characters are limited to the narrator's knowledge. The personal pronouns *I*, *my*, *mine*, etc., indicate first-person narrative. In *second-person narrative* you, the reader, are a character in the story. In *third-person narrative* the story is told from a narrator's viewpoint letting readers know about the actions, thoughts, and feelings of several or all the characters.

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In this section, Robert Louis Stevenson changes narrators in each chapter. Identify who the narrator is for each chapter and briefly explain why they are able to tell this part of the story the best.

Chapter 16:

Chapter 17:

Chapter 18:

Chapter 19:

Chapter 20:

Chapter 21:

10. Consider what advantage this change in narrator gives the author in this part of the book. How does it help the reader?

Dig Deeper:

11. Abraham Gray made the decision to do what was right and support the rightful captain. In what way was this decision dangerous and hard to follow through? What happened to him? Read Matthew 7:13–14 and 1 Peter 3:14–17. What do these verses teach us?
12. Redruth is dead, Joyce is dead, and Hunter and the captain are injured. Read Psalm 94. At times such as this, it can look like everything is lost and the evil

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are winning. According to these verses, who is in control and what will be the final outcome? What should be our perspective? How will things look the next day, the next month, the next year, or even 10 years from now?

13. Does this mean that the wicked will never win, and that the righteous will always be saved? How is God's view of time and eternity bigger than ours? If God doesn't promise us health and prosperity, what does he promise? Look at 2 Timothy 3, Romans 8:35–39, and Matthew 6:19–21, 25–34.

Part V—My Sea Adventure

Chapters 22–27

Vocabulary:

Examine each underlined word in the context of the sentence. Give your understanding of its meaning, then look up the meaning in a dictionary and write the dictionary definition.

1. “As for the captain, his wounds were grievous indeed, but not dangerous.”

Your definition:

Dictionary definition:

2. “This disgust and envy kept growing stronger and stronger, till at last, being near a bread-bag, and no one then observing me, I took the first step towards my escapade and filled both pockets of my coat with biscuit.”

Your definition:

Dictionary definition:

3. “I was to go down the sandy spit that divides the anchorage on the east from the open sea, find the white rock I had observed last evening, and ascertain whether it was there or not that Ben Gunn had hidden his boat. . . .”

Your definition:

Dictionary definition:

Treasure Island Study Guide

4. "As I continued to thread the tall woods, I could hear from far before me not only the continuous thunder of the surf, but a certain tossing of foliage and grinding of boughs which showed me the sea breeze had set in higher than usual."

Your definition:

Dictionary definition:

5. The ebb had already run some time, and I had to wade through a long belt of swampy sand, where I sank several times above the ankle, before I came to the edge of the retreating water, and wading a little way in, with some strength and dexterity, set my coracle, keel downwards, on the surface.

Your definition:

Dictionary definition:

6. "The coracle—as I had ample reason to know before I was done with her—was a very safe boat for a person of my height and weight, both buoyant and clever in a seaway; but she was the most cross-grained, lop-sided craft to manage."

Your definition:

Dictionary definition:

7. "Among the fallen rocks the breakers spouted and bellowed; loud reverberations, heavy sprays flying and falling, succeeded one another from second to second. . . ."

Your definition:

Dictionary definition:

8. I should, I think, have had nothing left me to desire but for the eyes of the coxswain as they followed me derisively about the deck, and the odd smile that appeared continually on his face.

Your definition:

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Dictionary definition:

9. "I might have fallen without a struggle for my life had not a sudden disquietude seized upon me and made me turn my head."

Your definition:

Dictionary definition:

10. "This brought me near to where I had encountered Ben Gunn, the maroon; and I walked more circumspectly, keeping an eye on every side."

Your definition:

Dictionary definition:

11. "He went in with a sounding plunge; the red cap came off and remained floating on the surface; and as soon as the splash subsided, I could see him and Israel lying side by side, both wavering with the tremulous movement of the water."

Your definition:

Dictionary definition:

Questions:

1. Why does Jim sneak away?

2. What does Jim decide to do to the *Hispaniola* once he has found the coracle?

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3. If Jim cuts the hawser which holds the anchor while it was taut, what does he fear will happen? How does he solve this?
4. As Jim tosses for hours in the coracle after he cuts the rope, what does he suffer from the most?
5. How is Jim captured by the pirates and why is it his own fault?

Thinking About the Story:

6. Jim declares that sneaking out was wrong and was his second folly, yet in the end "it was a help toward saving us all." What does this foreshadow in the coming chapters?
7. *Poetic justice* is a literary term that means a character receives what he or she "deserves" in a manner especially befitting the character's previous behavior. In your opinion, was Israel Hands' death a form of poetic justice? Why or why not?
8. *Irony* is a difference between appearance and reality, or between what is expected and what actually happens. *Dramatic irony* is when the reader sees a character's mistakes which the character is unable to see himself.

In Chapter 26, as Israel Hands lies wounded, Jim tells him he should be praying for his soul. Hands responds,

Treasure Island Study Guide

"For thirty years . . . I've sailed the seas, and seen good and bad, better and worse, fair weather and foul, provisions running out, knives going, and what not. Well, now I tell you, I never seen good come o' goodness yet. Him as strikes first is my fancy; dead men don't bite; them's my views—amen, so be it."

➤ What is ironic about Hands' outlook on "good," considering his past and present circumstances? Explain how this is also dramatic irony.

9. Why does Jim willingly partner with Hands, knowing how treacherous he is? Did Jim or Hands have any options?

10. After Israel Hands dies and has fallen into the water, what does Jim fear? Why do you think this bothers him?

Dig Deeper:

11. Israel Hands says to Jim, "I never seen good come o' goodness yet." Yet, Jim did not kill Israel Hands when he first found him wounded and weak. He even brought him drink and a bandage. How does "good" come of Jim's "goodness"? Read Luke 6:35, Romans 12:21, 1 Corinthians 15:58, Galatians 6:9, and 1 Peter 3:17. What do these verses say about doing good?

12. Hands asks Jim if "a dead man is dead for good, or do he come alive again?" How does Jim respond? Read 2 Corinthians 5:1–2, 4–5; Phillipians 1:21–24;

Treasure Island Study Guide

John 5:25–30; Hebrews 9:27–28. What do these verses teach us about our spirit and eternal life?

13. Jim has seen the death of his father, Billy Bones, Pew, Redruth, Joyce, Hunter, and other sailors and pirates. God wants us to know that there is more than just this life if we believe in Jesus and we should not be afraid of death. Read 1 Corinthians 15:50–57. Paraphrase these verses that tell about death and how we should think of it.

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Part VI—Captain Silver

Chapters 28–34

Vocabulary:

Read the sentence from the book, then answer the question about the underlined word by choosing the correct response.

1. “The red glare of the torch, lighting up the interior of the block house, showed me the worst of my apprehensions realized.”

If someone is filled with apprehensions, he is filled with _____.

- a. anger, fury
- b. fear, worries, or anxieties
- c. understanding
- d. capabilities; confidences

2. “‘You’ll perhaps batten down your hatches till you’re spoke to, my friend,’ cried Silver truculently to this speaker.”

If someone speaks truculently, he is _____.

- a. aggressively defiant
- b. fearful
- c. truthful and honest
- d. patient; calm

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3. "Silver briefly agreed, and this emissary retired again, leaving us together in the dark."
If someone is an emissary, he is a _____.
a. liar
b. friend
c. mutineer
d. messenger
4. "I could just make out that he had a book as well as a knife in his hand, and was still wondering how anything so incongruous had come in their possession."
If something is incongruous, it is _____.
a. unable to grow
b. inappropriate; out of place
c. reliable or steady
d. understandable or logical
5. "'I thought you said you knowed the rules,' returned Silver contemptuously."
If you speak contemptuously, you speak _____.
a. sadly, disappointed
b. with humor; jokingly
c. convincingly; with persuasion
d. without respect; disdainfully
6. "'That's for number one,' cried the accused, wiping the sweat from his brow, for he had been talking with a vehemence that shook the house."
If someone speaks with vehemence, he speaks with _____.
a. violence or forcefulness of expression
b. indifference; unconcern
c. mildness or soft spoken
d. happily, energetically joyful

Treasure Island Study Guide

7. "But if it were inexplicable to me, the appearance of the chart was incredible to the surviving mutineers."

If something is inexplicable, it is _____.

- a. a deep cavern unable to be explored
- b. logical or comprehensible
- c. baffling; unable to be explained
- d. a graph or map of a given area

8. "That come—as you call it—of . . . not having sense enough to know honest air from poison, and the dry land from a vile, pestiferous slough."

If something is pestiferous, it seems to be _____.

- a. harboring an infectious disease
- b. stiff and unbendable
- c. able to be perceived from any direction
- d. petty or insignificant

9. "You don't appear to me to have the rudiments of a notion of the rules of health."

If someone lacks the rudiments of something, he is without _____.

- a. a concoction or potion
- b. the basic principles
- c. herbal remedies indigenous to an area
- d. concern or self-control

10. "And then he bade them get the fire lit, and stalked out upon his crutch, with his hand on my shoulder, leaving them in a disarray, and silenced by his volubility rather than convinced."

If they were silenced by his volubility, they were silenced by _____.

- a. forcefulness and strength
- b. dangerous threats
- c. gratitude and thanks
- d. fluent unstoppable speech

Treasure Island Study Guide

11. "Sheer above us rose the Spyglass, here dotted with single pines, there black with precipices."
If you see precipices, you are seeing _____.
a. rain in the form of hail; precipitation
b. a type of bird
c. a cliff with steep, vertical sides
d. a black mineral layer in the rock
12. "And there was Silver, sitting back almost out of the firelight, but eating heartily, prompt to spring forward when anything was wanted, even joining quietly in our laughter—the same bland, polite, obsequious seaman of the voyage out."
If one is obsequious, he is behaving in a way that is _____.
a. overly eager to please
b. obnoxious or detestable
c. disobedient, rebellious
d. observant or perceptive
13. "Indeed, it was remarkable how well he bore these slights and with what unwearied politeness he kept on trying to ingratiate himself with all."
If someone tries to ingratiate themselves with others, he is _____.
a. unthankful or ungrateful
b. trying to speak privately
c. trying to get oneself into another's good favor
d. sharing or distributing items
14. "The maroon had connived at his escape in a shore boat some hours ago, and he now assured us he had only done so to preserve our lives, which would certainly have been forfeit if 'that man with the one leg had stayed aboard.'"
If someone connived to do something, he _____.
a. misunderstood
b. ignored what is happening
c. plotted or planned to do wrong
d. worked and struggled

Treasure Island Study Guide

Questions:

1. When Jim is captured by the pirates, what does he believe has happened to his companions?
2. What four grievances do the pirates give to justify having Silver deposed as captain? How does Silver refute their charges?
3. Why does the doctor come to the block-house? What does this tell you about the doctor's character?
4. Once they return home, what becomes of Ben Gunn?
5. What becomes of Long John Silver at the end of this tale?

Thinking About the Story:

6. Silver tells Jim that the doctor has called him an "ungrateful scamp" and "I don't know where he is, confound him . . . nor I don't much care. We're about sick of him." What is Silver's motive in these declarations?

Treasure Island Study Guide

7. *Ambiguity* is a literary technique in which an author intentionally suggests more than one, and sometimes contradictory, interpretations of a situation or perception of a character. This uncertainty adds interest and dilemma to the story. What does Jim mean when he says Silver “still had a foot in either camp”? How do these constant changes in Silver’s loyalties make him an ambiguous character?

8. Some of the elements of the actual treasure map’s journey seem closely connected with Jim himself. When an author purposefully uses similar plots, characters, or other story elements, we call it *parallelism*. Since its discovery in Billy Bones’ sea chest, the map has been watched over by Jim and his companions. How does the map suddenly showing up in the hands of Silver parallel Jim’s capture by the pirates? What does this communicate about the current value of both the map and Jim?

9. *Anthropomorphism* is the act or practice of attributing human form or qualities to gods, animals, or things. It is a figure of speech in which a lifeless thing or quality is spoken of as if alive and it is attributing human characteristics and purposes to inanimate objects, animals, plants, or other natural phenomena. For example, “The music sobbed”; “Duty calls us”; “The flowers danced about the lawn.” To describe a rushing river as “angry” is to anthropomorphize it.

Find the anthropomorphism in the following passages and explain what lifeless thing is given human characteristic and what that characteristic is. The first is done for you.

- a. “A full moon was beginning to rise and peered redly through the upper edges of the fog. . . .”

The moon is able to peer through the fog. It is given the characteristic of sight.

Treasure Island Study Guide

- do 2
- b. "Long after that death yell was still ringing in my brain, silence had re-established its empire. . . ."
 - c. "There was sand in our eyes, sand in our teeth, sand in our suppers, sand dancing in the spring at the bottom of the kettle. . . ."
 - d. "The fog had now buried all heaven."

10. When the pirates are holding Jim as hostage and Silver allows him to speak with Doctor Livesey alone, what does the doctor try to get Jim to do? Why does Jim refuse?

11. How does this compare to Jim's slipping off the ship and sneaking away from the stockade earlier in the story? What does this tell you about Jim's character now?

12. In this section, Robert Louis Stevenson picks up the pace and begins to end some of his chapters with *cliff hangers*. Authors use a technique called a cliffhanger to build suspense. In this approach, the writer sets up a point of suspense at the end of a chapter to make the reader want to read on quickly to discover what will happen next. In *Treasure Island*, the author employs this technique for the ending of two chapters in this section. Identify which chapters end in cliffhangers, and quote their closing sentences.

GUIDED ESSAY ASSIGNMENT

Given below are the introductory and concluding paragraphs of an essay, along with the topic sentences of the three supporting paragraphs. The final sentence of the introductory paragraph (underlined below) is the *thesis*, or central point, of the essay.

Long John Silver: A Memorable Villain

Introductory Paragraph

Although it was written over one hundred years ago, people still read and enjoy *Treasure Island*. Why? A key element in the story is its colorful, larger than life antagonist, Long John Silver. Although the mutinous "villain" of the story, Silver is presented as a multi-faceted character who possesses many qualities that we normally associate with "good guys." Indeed, the young narrator of *Treasure Island*, Jim Hawkins, states that Long John Silver is "twice the man" of the other mutineers. Three qualities that make Long John Silver such a memorable antagonist are his keen intelligence; his great physical ability; and his personal charm, which enables him to mask his true intentions from others.

Supporting Paragraph 1

Topic sentence: The first positive quality Long John Silver possesses is his intelligence. (Add supporting details.)

Supporting Paragraph 2

Topic sentence: In addition to intelligence, Long John Silver possesses great physical ability. (Add supporting details.)

Supporting Paragraph 3

Topic sentence: Finally, Long John Silver is a very charming character, an actor, who is able to hide his true intentions from most, if not all, of the other characters. (Add supporting details.)

Concluding Paragraph

Throughout *Treasure Island*, Stevenson gives Long John Silver qualities that readers can identify with and appreciate. Although he is a villain, Long John Silver's special combination of positive traits, coupled with his extreme ruthlessness, make us eagerly anticipate what he will do next. If he were less of a man, the story would probably not have become the classic that it has.

Assignment: Write the three supporting paragraphs needed to complete this essay.

How to Proceed:

1. Ask yourself questions about Long John Silver's intelligence and write down detailed answers. When and how does he display this quality? How does this quality affect his behavior and actions? How does he use this quality to attain his goals?
Write down examples of his intelligence—examples you could use if you were explaining his story to a person who had not read the book. Then ask yourself the same questions about Long John Silver's physical prowess and his personal charm, and write out detailed answers.
2. Now write a rough draft of each paragraph. Start each paragraph with one of the topic sentences given above. Remember, you want to have clear examples from the story of how Long John Silver demonstrates each of the three qualities.
3. Set the paragraphs aside for a while so you can take a fresh look at them later. See if you have provided enough supporting details to back up your point about each of the three characteristics. See if you can add more details, or even better details. Now write the entire essay, making sure that your support is as convincing as possible.
4. Finally, it's very important to *read your paper aloud*. Chances are that you will find grammar or punctuation mistakes at every spot where your paper does not read smoothly and clearly. Make the corrections needed so that all your sentences read smoothly. If necessary, write a final draft before handing in your paper.

A BRIEF GUIDE TO WRITING

Remember that the two basic goals in writing are to **make a point** and to **support that point**. Here are steps to follow while working on your paper:

Step 1: Think about your topic by writing about it in one of three ways.

- *Freewrite for ten minutes.* Write whatever comes into your head about your subject. Don't worry about spelling or grammar. Just get down on paper all the information that occurs to you.
- *Make up a list of ideas and details that could go into your paper.* Pile these items up, one after another, like a shopping list, without worrying about putting them in any special order.
- *Write down a series of questions and answers about your topic.* Your questions can start with words like *what*, *why*, *how*, *when*, and *where*.

Step 2: Plan your paper with an informal outline.

- First of all, decide on and write out the point of your paper.
- Then list the supporting reasons, examples, or other details that will back up your point. Try to have two or three items of support.

Step 3: Use transitions.

Use your outline as a guide while writing the early drafts of your paper. Use transitions to introduce each of the separate supporting items (reasons, examples, or other details) you present to back up the point of your paper. Transitions include such words as *First of all*, *Secondly*, *Another reason* or *Another example*, and *Finally*.

Step 4: Always read your paper aloud.

Chances are you'll find grammar or punctuation mistakes at those places where the paper does not read smoothly and clearly. Make the corrections needed.