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After Reading

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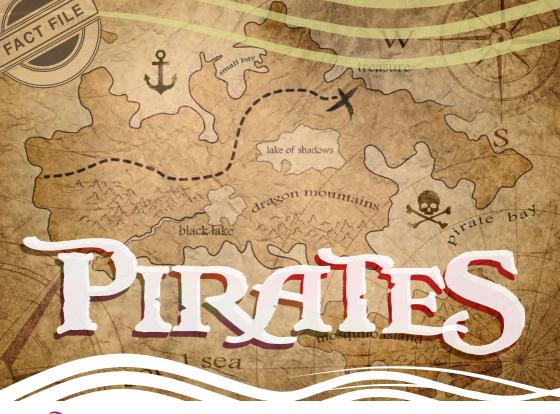
mo

77

bay

lake of shadows

agon mou



WHAT IS A PIRATE?

Treasure Island is set in the golden age of piracy and has strongly contributed to create the popular image that we have of pirates. When we think of pirates, we immediately think of dangerous robbers of the high seas who wear eve patches and have hooks for hands, most likely• with a parrot on a shoulder and sometimes missing a leg, and therefore either use a crutch[•] or have a peg leg[•]. This image, however, does not come directly from the novel, but from one of its movie adaptations, namely the 1950 version by Byron Haskin, which was also Disney's

first live-action film. The film does not fully correspond to reality and Hollywood certainly added features[•] in the way it shows pirates in movies. So we can say that the image of pirates we have is largely influenced by Stevenson's novel, but was enriched[•] to come up to the expectations[•] of the western audience's imagination.

FreedoM

Many pirates worked for the colonial powers of the time attacking rival ships and stealing their gold, silver and tobacco.

Pirates on film

What other films about pirates have you seen? What are they about?

However, besides criminality and a strong dislike for social institutions, piracy is also a symbol of **freedom** and individualism. A real pirate is alone in the world, he lives outside any established social code. His only code is every man for himself. Stevenson captures this spirit in his tale and in doing so creates our fascination[•] with pirates. The reason for this, experts say, is because this idea of pirates is closely connected to the western spirit of individualism and adventure. This image captures our imagination so strongly because it addresses our inner desires and innate[•] sense of adventure.

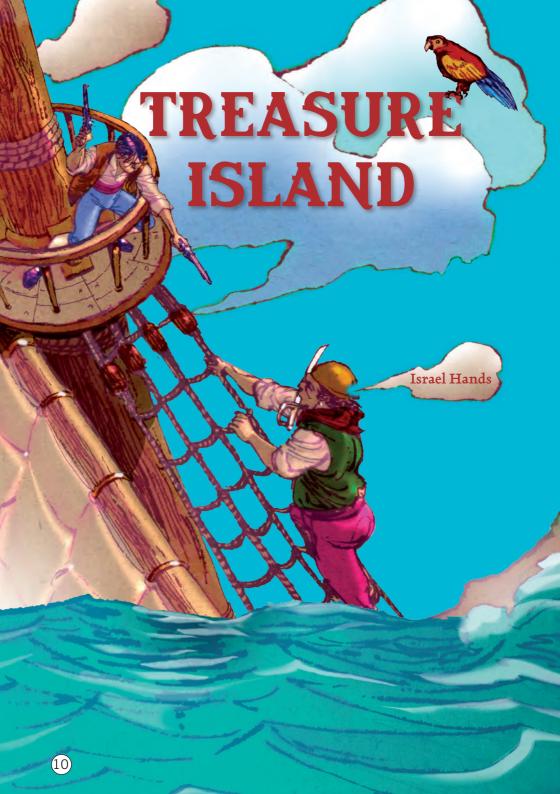
GLOSSARY_

- crutch: stick to help one walk
- enriched: improved; added to
- expectations: things you hope for and think will happen
- fascination: great interest
- features: interesting and important details and idea
- innate: that we are born with; inner
- most likely: probably
- peg leg: wooden leg (usually from the knee down)
- thrill: excite; entertain

OVER TO YOU!

Although Stevenson's intention was purely to thrill[•] readers, piracy in his novel can easily be taken as a metaphor for some delicate issues in our daily lives, for example social injustice, exploitation or new forms of colonialism. What do you think? Share ideas with a partner.

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BEFORE READING

1 Look at the map and match the words to the numbers.



2 Listen and write the following words or instructions on the map.

Most of treasure here North Harbour Skeleton Island South Harbour Spy-glass Hill



3 Listen and match the characters to the descriptions.



4 Read about some of the characters. Choose the correct adjective to complete each description.

sick burnt rich quiet

- **a** Squire Trelawney is a aristocrat. He organises the search for the treasure.
- **b** Ben Gunn is a pirate who was abandoned on Treasure Island. His skin is by the sun and he wears old clothes. He helps Jim and the others to find the treasure.
- **c** Doctor Livesey always tries to help people who are, even the pirates. He is honest and noble but also loves adventure.
- **d** Mr and Mrs Hawkins are Jim's parents and they are honest, hard–working people. They own a tavern which is usually very until some pirates come to visit.



I CALL ME 'CAPTAIN

I am Jim Hawkins and my story begins many years ago, when my father worked at the Admiral Benbow inn[•].

One day a tall man with a scar[•] on his face arrived. He opened the door of the inn, singing the song I now know so well:

"Fifteen men on the dead man's chest" Yo-ho-ho, and a bottle of rum?*"*

'A glass of rum,' he said when he came inside.

'This is a pleasant inn,' he said. 'Do you have many customers?' 'Not many,' my father answered.

'Well, this is the place for me. You can call me "Captain",' he said. Then he asked a man to carry his large sailor's chest• to his room. 'I'm a simple man,' he told my father. 'Rum and bacon and eggs is all I want. Here are four gold coins to start. Tell me when I have to pay more.'

During the day he went to the cliffs• with his telescope• and in the evening he sat by the fire drinking rum and water. He asked about sailors every day. We soon understood that he wanted to avoid• them. When a sailor visited the inn, the captain was always very quiet. One day he asked me:

'If you see a sailor with one leg, tell me as soon as he arrives.'

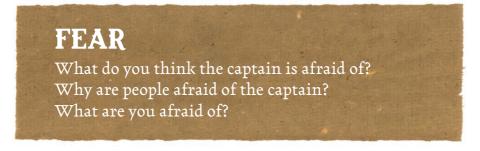
GLOSSARY.

- avoid: keep away from (a place or person)
- chest: wooden box
- cliffs: vertical rock on mountains or by the sea
- inn: type of hotel
- rum: alcoholic drink
- scar: mark on the skin
- telescope:
- while: short time

When the captain drank too much rum, he sang sea-songs and told the other customers terrible stories about his violent life at sea.

He stayed month after month, but he didn't give my father any more money. My poor father was too frightened to ask. Everyone was frightened of the captain and his stories. The only person who was not afraid of him was the local doctor and magistrate[•], Dr[•] Livesey.

'If you keep drinking rum like that, you will very soon be dead,' he warned the captain.





GLOSSARY.

• Dr: short for doctor

• **magistrate:** person who makes a legal decision

AFTER READING VOCABULARY

1 Use five of the words in the box to complete the sentences.

bandage hostage compass shrill torch villain skull accurate

- a A very bad person in novels is sometimes called a
- **b** A is an instrument for finding directions.
- **c** A is a piece of cloth on a wound or injury.
- d A is a burning piece of wood, used to see in the dark.
- e In the past, copies of documents were not always

2 Complete the word formation table below.

ADJECTIVE	NOUN
KIND	KINDNESS
INJURED	
	RELIEF
EXCITED	
	CARE
SAFE	
	TERROR
AFRAID	
	WOOD
DISAPPOINTED	
	PUZZLE

AFTER READING CAMBRIDGE ENGLISH EXAMS

K A2 Key English Test Reading and Writing Part 4

1 For each sentence, choose the correct missing word (A, B, or C).

- a Doubloons were valuable Spanish coins. They were called this they counted for two escudos.
 A after
 B when
 C because
- b The chest is filled with old Doubloons pieces of eight.A onB inC with
- **c** Before leaving, Captain Smollett had a that something was wrong.

A feeling B question C sign

d Stevenson was only fifteen when he published his work, an account of a Scottish rebellion in 1666.

A first	B famous	C third

e The novel was originally published chapter by chapter in a weekly magazine. So, chapter had to capture the readers' imagination.

A one B each C any

f The man with the scar on his face entered the inn singing aloud, was quite frightening.

A which B but C and

g Treasure Island is still a favourite children and adults alike.

A at B for C among

h The only man was not afraid of the Captain was Dr Livesey.

A who B which C what