

Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson
Literature Study Guide
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Literature Study Guide: *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson

Part One: For the Parent/Teacher

Recommended Ages/Grade Level: Ages 12 and up or Grades 7 and up.

Edition used: Children's Classics, Random House Value Publishing, 1998 Ed.

Part One: Overview for Parents:

Treasure Island is an adventure novel set in England during the 1700's. This is one of the classic adventure tales; countless children have embarked on life-long reading adventures after having become "hooked" by *Treasure Island* or other tales of this type. Typical of Victorian novels, it can spark discussions about history, politics, morality, along with issues of social classes, wealth, poverty, etc. The vocabulary and prose style can be challenging, but is not overwhelming. The prose style is, in fact, one of the primary features that make *Treasure Island* the classic tale that it is.

The main characters are:

- Jim Hawkins; the protagonist and narrator of the story
- Billy Bones; a guest at the Admiral Benbow Inn who involves Jim in the coming events
- Blind Pew; messenger and former member of Captain Flint's crew
- Squire Trelawney; wealthy land-owner who funds the voyage of the *Hispaniola* to Treasure Island
- Doctor Livesey; kindly doctor who is brought along on the treasure hunt as ship's surgeon
- Captain Flint; evil, cruel, heartless pirate, but one who has been dead 'lo these many years...
- Captain Smollet; Captain of the *Hispaniola*, a stable and trustworthy man
- Long John Silver; Hired on as cook aboard the *Hispaniola*, a former member of Flint's crew
- Ben Gunn; Another former member of Flint's crew who was marooned on Treasure Island

Points for Discussion – Victorian Literature and *Treasure Island*

Vocabulary: *Treasure Island* is richly detailed with descriptions of characters and events. The style of prose, however, is foreign to the ear of a 21st Century reader. Many pirates, or "privateers," had been British sailors, and this is where the pirates in *Treasure Island* originate. Seafaring men of that era had their own vocabulary, much different from 21st century English. There are many websites that offer definitions for the terms in use at the time, including the Maritime Dictionary from 1701:

<http://pc-78-120.udac.se:8001/WWW/Nautica/Etymology/x707Seam.html>

In addition, the vocabulary matching exercise below can be given to the student both before and after reading the story. Looking the words up first will prepare them for reading the story, and will reinforce the vocabulary further during the review.

The "Spanish Main" The tale opens on the British coast near Bristol. Jim tells us that he is writing in the "year of grace 17--." From these small clues, we gather that the story probably takes place in the first half of the 18th Century, which was the time in history that saw the pirates and buccaneers on the "Spanish Main," the term given to the Central Atlantic, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Caribbean. England was just beginning to assert herself as the most powerful military force in Europe, and Bristol was becoming a major shipbuilding and trade port. Up until this time, Spain, France, and Holland had been the primary powers, and trade with their colonies in the Caribbean region had made their ships profitable targets for pirates.

The Age of Reason The story *Treasure Island* is set during the period of the Enlightenment and the Age of Reason. Philosophers active during the Enlightenment were Hume, Kant, Voltaire, and Bacon. Progress was the catch phrase of the time. The Enlightenment was a period in which the great thinkers

believed that humanity, through the employment of reason, was truly gaining mastery over the world. Maritime trade and exploration were further examples to the people of this time of man's mastery over nature.

Victorian Industrialism An end-result of the Industrial Revolution was that paper manufacture and printing processes had evolved to such an extent that books could finally be produced inexpensively. This resulted in an explosion of reading material available to the masses, which in turn made it possible for education to be extended to everyone. It was around the time of the publication of *Treasure Island* that free public education was first made available to every child in Britain. It was also during this time that novels became very popular for the same reasons.

The bildungsroman This term is from the German, essentially meaning a story of reaching adulthood, or a coming of age story. The bildungsroman was a very popular form of narrative in the Victorian age, and *Treasure Island* is a classic example of this literary form. Jim is confronted by events that bring him into the world of adults, though he is not quite ready for them. His youth and ingenuity are tested from the beginning of the story by shady characters and the promise of wealth. Other famous examples of the Victorian bildungsroman are Charles Dickens' *Great Expectations* and *David Copperfield*. Important themes in the bildungsroman are the individual's growth, the quest for adulthood, some form of loss, (Jim's father has recently died), and repeated clashes that encourage the growth of the individual within a social order. These clashes abound throughout *Treasure Island*, with the upstanding Squire Trelawney and Dr. Livesey providing the mentorship and role models for Jim to follow and grow within the British social structure, as well as the pirates who provide models of courage, charisma, and independence.

Women in Victorian Europe and America Any discussion of Victorian literature must address the fact that women had never before been included in the list of important writers and thinkers. It was only in the Victorian period that writers like Emily Bronte could expect to publish works of importance like *Little Women*, and indeed that women could be considered thinkers, let alone writers of import. In fact, women take a decidedly back seat in *Treasure Island*, considering that there is only one mentioned; the protagonist's mother. Stevenson is quoted as having said that the story was "a man's story." At the same time Stevenson was writing *Treasure Island*, (1880-81), the Bronte sisters and others were writing volumes about women's plight in England and Europe, while the Women's Suffrage Movement was still evolving in America. Women would not receive the right to vote in the US for another 40 years, until 1920.

ANSWER KEY for the "Setting the Stage" and "While You Read" Questions

The following are some suggested responses to the questions in the Student's Guide below.

Setting the Stage

1. The Gulf Stream is the current that circles the North Atlantic. It rotates off the coasts of Europe and the Americas, its southern leg flowing from Europe toward the Caribbean, then turning north to flow along the eastern seaboard of North America. Of course, the Triangle Trade route followed the Gulf Stream. The current is in part responsible for the climate of the southern Caribbean, and in fact the islands of the Antilles are named the "Leeward" and "Windward" Islands in relation to the Trade Winds of the Gulf Stream. All trade in the region depended on the Gulf Stream currents to provide wind and sea currents for the sailing vessels used.

2. The trip from Europe to the Americas generally took between two and three months. Ships were surprisingly small for the distances they traveled. This made the journey quite uncomfortable for the crew and abjectly miserable for any slaves chained in the holds. Responses might include words like long, tedious, scary, etc. Dangers would have included storms, getting lost, sickness and injury, etc. They would only have had what they brought from England to eat and drink, except for fish, which could be caught during the voyage. Two or more paragraphs on whether the student would want to go to sea or not would satisfy this question.

Part I – The Old Buccaneer

1. Bristol Arm is a narrow inlet of the Atlantic Ocean that ends at the town of Bristol in Southwest England. This made Bristol a safe harbor and major shipbuilding and merchant port. Bristol Arm is a direct, westward entry into the shipping lanes of the Atlantic, and a perfect exit for homecoming vessels. The bluffs and cliffs above the inlet would have been ideal vantages to keep an eye on incoming and outgoing vessels.

2. From the story, we gather that “the captain,” or Billy Bones, at first scared Jim. Later, however, he began to have a certain respect for the grizzled old pirate. We can only imagine that the tips Billy gave to Jim to keep a lookout for the one-legged man were part of this grudging respect. Adjectives describing Billy could be scarred, dirty, livid white, ruffian, diabolical, etc...

3. Answers will vary. Of course, the “black spot” was literally a slip of paper with a black spot drawn on it. It signified a death sentence among the pirates in the story, which is why Billy Bones was literally “scared to death” when Blind Pew delivered the black spot to him. In the final part of the book, the black spot makes another appearance and its meaning clarified a little more. Thought connections with the black spot could be gun shot wounds, hopelessness, etc.

4. These of course are directions to the treasure: “...a point to the North of North-North-East...” The Doctor and Squire understand the importance of the directions, and immediately begin making plans to recover the buried treasure.

Part II – The Sea Cook (Chapters 7 – 12)

1. Seeing the young boy helping his mother was the first tangible proof Jim had that his life was now different, that he was actually leaving his home and his mother. In short, Jim realized that he was to be an adult.

2. Following are just a few examples of answers: Within the first few paragraphs of Chapter 8 we are introduced to Long John Silver, a man whose “left leg was cut off close by the hip...” (We were warned of a man with one leg back at the Admiral Benbow...) While he is meeting Long John, Jim is surprised when Black Dog, Billy Bones’ first visitor at the Benbow, runs away from the tavern, and then Blind Pew is mentioned.

In Chapter 9, we learn that the Captain and the Squire are not getting along, and the Captain says, “I don’t like this cruise; I don’t like the men; and I don’t like my officer...”

As the voyage is just getting underway in Chapter 10, before the anchor is lifted, Long John breaks into Billy Bones’ favorite song, “Fifteen men on a dead man’s chest...”

We find that Long John’s parrot is named Cap’n Flint, after the infamous pirate whose treasure is the goal of the story.

3. Fore and aft describe the forward and rear ends of the ship, the bow, and the stern. Port is the left-hand side of a boat, while starboard is the right-hand side. The forecabin of the boat is the section of the upper deck located at the bow. A schooner is a ship with two or more masts with sails fore and aft of the masts.

4. Jim of course felt betrayal when he heard the pirates conspiring against the officers. He had felt awe for the pirate before, but that was all changed when the pirates’ actual plan was laid out. In the passage, Long John meant that the pirates should kill the officers of the ship, (the Captain, the Squire and the Doctor, and presumably Jim as well), when the treasure was found.

Part III – My Shore Adventure (Chapters 13 – 15)

1. He described the island as gray and melancholy. We also find that the island has the smell of death, and place names like Skeleton Island reinforce the description. In his imagination, the island had been a kind of tropical paradise, not at all the scene that Jim saw on arrival.

2. Gunn finally clears up what is now not much of a mystery. He was a sailor with Flint's crew, along with Billy Bones, Blind Pew, Long John, and all the rest. Gunn's behavior is strange, first because he has spent three years alone on a deserted island. Secondly, we are led to believe that he is half-mad with greed, possessing a fabulous fortune that is completely worthless on the island.

3. Captain Flint's ship was the *Walrus*.

Part IV – The Stockade (Chapters 16 – 21)

1. Dr. Livesey narrates the chapter, which takes place while Jim is meeting Ben Gunn on the island. Jim's narration allows us to feel more of his own emotion. The Doctor's narration is more of a listing of facts that occurred.

2. Seven remained on the faithful side: Smollet; Trelawney; Livesey; Jim; Gray; Hunter and Joyce.

3. They put out the fire so smoke did not get in their eyes; the men were given posts around the stockade to guard; Jim and the wounded Captain would load the guns after being fired, while the best marksmen of the party are assigned to guard the weakest point in the stockade.

4. On the "faithful side," there were two fatalities, Hunter and Joyce, and the Captain was so badly wounded that he could no longer be counted on to fight. This left the party with four able fighters. On the pirates' side, eleven were lost, leaving them with eight men.

Part V – My Sea Adventure (Chapters 22 – 27)

1. He was scared, staying in the stockade with the cries of the wounded men, along with the constant fear of the pirates' return, and wanted to at least be away from the oppressiveness. He had also made up a plan to help his friends.

2. He would take Ben Gunn's small boat to the *Hispaniola*, and cut the anchor ropes so that the ship would run aground, stranding the pirates but keeping the ship close at hand.

3. Israel Hands and the pirate with the red hat were fighting.

4. Through selfish and drunken quarreling and killing each other, they have caused mistrust among themselves and reduced their advantage in numbers.

Part VI – Captain Silver (Chapters 28 – 34)

1. From what Silver tells Jim it is because he spoke his mind when he told the pirates all he had done, and offered to be a witness for Silver if ever brought to justice. We also feel that at this point, Silver softens a little, and decides to save the boy because of a genuine affection.

2. They found the skeleton of a former crewmate laid out by Flint in a compass line pointing toward the treasure.

3. A "giant excavation," or hole, had been dug sometime ago. There was grass growing on the mounded dirt and in the hole. A broken pick and some boards from packing crates labeled "*Walrus*" were strewn around. The treasure had been found and removed.

4. Ben Gunn had dug it up years before the pirates arrived.

Questions for Discussion

Here are some general thoughts and guidelines to follow when discussing the broad themes in the story outlined in the questions below. Answers will vary.

1. Well rounded characters of course are Jim Hawkins, Squire Trelawney, and Doctor Livesey, along with Billy Bones and Long John Silver. Those not as developed include Redruth, Hunter, Gray and Joyce. Usually only characters primarily important to the story will be developed.

Livesey and Bones are compared/contrasted in the first chapter in a particular passage: "...I remember observing the contrast the neat, bright doctor, with his powder as white as snow, and his bright, black eyes and pleasant manners, made with the coltish country folk, and above all, with that filthy, heavy, bleared scarecrow of a pirate of ours, sitting far gone in rum, with his arms on the table."

As in the above comparison, words like "bright" and "pleasant" contrast with "filthy" and "bleared" to produce a picture in our minds of the characters.

2. Answers for these questions will vary widely. Accept any answer that is well thought out and uses examples from the text. The story is about numerous things, not one, specified event or theme.

3. The inn, the ship, and the island are all isolated places that allow the action to play out in a small arena. They are also places that can be extremely secluded, far from the public eye, and can become very lonely places.

Primary uses of the color black are of course with the "black spot," as well as with the Jolly Roger and in the name of the pirate who finds Billy Bones, Black Dog. Blind Pew can be thought of as existing in a state of blackness.

End of Answer Key

Part Two: Study Guide for Students

History and Setting

Treasure Island is an adventure novel, and is considered historical fiction. None of the characters in the book are based on real characters, but because the story has been so widely read, many of the characters are easy to recognize. The “stock character” of the squinting, gravelly-voiced pirate growling “Arrrgghh, matey,” and singing “Yo-ho-ho and a bottle of rum...” are all based on Robert Louis Stevenson’s characterization of Long John Silver and the rest of the pirates in *Treasure Island*.

The Triangle Trade

The story begins in England around 1730. This was a time when England was becoming the most powerful nation in Europe. This was also the time of the horrible slave trade between Africa and the Americas. Ships would travel from Europe to Africa to pick up cargoes of people who had been kidnapped violently from their villages, and force them into the ships’ holds; dark, cramped areas below the deck. In these miserable conditions, the men, women, and children would be brought to the Caribbean and North America where they would be taken off the ships and sold to plantation and mine owners. For the return voyage to Europe, the ships would take on sugar and rum and other raw materials produced with slave labor like sugar and silver ore. Arriving in Europe, the ship’s course looked like a triangle between Europe, Africa, North America, and back again to Europe. The route became known as the Triangle Trade, and is one of the darkest periods of European, African, and American history.

Geography

Jim Hawkins and the other characters in the story retrace this trade route through the course of the story. *Treasure Island* itself is an imaginary island in the Caribbean. Stevenson probably imagined an island in the Lesser Antilles close to South America as the setting. Actual islands in that region are Saint Kitts, Montserrat, Martinique, and Grenada. There has always been a history of volcanoes in this region, and most of the islands are composed of volcanic rocks and soil. This type of soil is very fertile and supports the lush jungle growth Stevenson describes.

European Colonialism

At the time the story is set, several European nations had claims to islands and regions in the Caribbean and the Americas. France, Britain, and the Netherlands are the primary nations still represented, but Spain was another nation with large holdings in the Caribbean. A region controlled by another, distant country is called a colony. Colonialism was widely practiced by European nations throughout the 16th, 17th, 18th and into the 19th centuries. Of course, the original 13 Colonies in America were British colonies. A nation claims colonies in order to profit from the raw materials and surplus goods that the colony produces. In the Caribbean, these goods were primarily sugar, silver ore, and tobacco.

Here are some short assignments to complete to help you understand the book better. You may need an encyclopedia, dictionary, atlas, or the Internet to help you with these questions.

Setting the Stage

Use the following questions to begin to think about Jim’s voyage on the *Hispaniola*

1. The Gulf Stream is a current in the North Atlantic Ocean. Find a diagram of the current; most atlases will have a diagram of world ocean and air currents. Examine the Gulf Stream and describe how it might have been important for the captains of trading ships to know about this particular current. What effects do you think the Gulf Stream had on the islands of the Caribbean, both in terms of weather and in terms of trade?

2. On the internet, go to the web site “The Wreck of the *Henrietta Marie*” at the following address:
<http://www.melfisher.org/henriettamarie/index2.htm>

(This website is produced by the Mel Fisher Maritime Heritage Society, located in Florida.) Read the description of the ship and the typical voyage of a slave trader from Europe, to Africa, to the Americas and back to Europe. The *Henrietta Marie* was similar to the ship Robert Louis Stevenson had in mind when he wrote *Treasure Island*. From the description of this type of ship, what do you think Jim Hawkins' voyage across the Atlantic would have been like? (Keep in mind that the *Hispaniola* did not visit Africa and did not carry a cargo of slaves.) What would some of the dangers have been on the voyage? What would they have had to eat and drink? Would you enjoy going to sea on a ship like the *Hispaniola*?

While You Read

Part I – The Old Buccaneer (Chapters 1 – 6)

Answer the following questions after you complete Part I of the book.

1. In reading through the first chapter, there are clues given as to when and where the story unfolds. Locate the town of Bristol in England on a map. The Admiral Benbow Inn was on a bluff overlooking the ocean. What is the name given to the arm of the sea that the Benbow might have overlooked? Why would the Benbow and surrounding bluffs and cliffs have been good places to watch for ships?
2. What kind of impression do you think Jim had of Billy Bones while the old seafarer stayed at the Admiral Benbow? What words used in the story do you think best describe Billy?
3. After having read the first few chapters, what do you think the "black spot" was that Blind Pew gave to Billy Bones? How do you suppose "Captain" Billy Bones knew Black Dog and Blind Pew?
4. On the back of the map Jim and his mother found was written "Tall tree, Spy-glass shoulder, bearing a point to the N. of N. N. E." What do the capital letters mean? Why were the Doctor and the Squire excited to see this?

Part II – The Sea Cook (Chapters 7 – 12)

Answer the following questions after you complete Part II of the book.

1. Symbolism plays a large part in these chapters. Jim tells us that he treated the boy helping his mother badly: "I'm afraid I led that boy a dog's life..." Why do you think Jim would have treated the boy this way?
2. Foreshadowing is also important in Part II. There are several clues that the voyage will not be an easy one. Can you find at least two examples of foreshadowing in these chapters?
3. What do the following words mean? a.) fore b.) aft c.) bow d.) stern e.) port f.) starboard g.) fo'castle h.) schooner
4. Conflict between good and evil plays a large role in the story. How do you think Jim felt while hiding in the apple barrel when he heard the discussion the pirates had? What did Long John mean when he said, "Dooty is dooty, mates. I give my vote - death. When I'm in Parlyment and riding in my coach, I don't want none of these sea lawyers in the cabin a coming home, unlooked for, like the devil at prayers."

Part III – My Shore Adventure (Chapters 13 – 15)

Answer the following questions after you complete Part III of the book.

1. How does Jim describe the Island? Does it live up to his expectations?
2. What role does Ben Gunn play in the story when he meets Jim in the jungle? What do you think are the reasons behind his strange speech patterns and actions?
3. What was the name of Captain Flint's ship?

Part IV – The Stockade (Chapters 16 – 21)

Answer the following questions after you complete Part IV of the book.

1. Who narrates the story in Chapters 16-19? How does Stevenson distinguish this narrator's style from Jim's?
2. How many men were in the "loyal" party along with Captain Smollet?
3. How did the men in the stockade prepare for the pirates' attack?
4. What were the results of the fight at the stockade?

Part V – My Sea Adventure (Chapters 22 – 27)

Answer the following questions after you complete Part V of the book.

1. Why did Jim steal away from the stockade?
2. Briefly describe the plan Jim had in mind to prevent the pirates' escape.
3. What did Jim find happening in the ship when he finally got the "coracle" alongside the *Hispaniola* and was able to see in?
4. Through the story, how have the pirates been defeating their own cause? In other words, how have the pirates been making things harder on themselves?

Part VI – Captain Silver (Chapters 28 – 34)

Answer the following questions after you complete Part VI of the book.

1. Why did Silver decide to save Jim?
2. How did the pirates find their way to where Flint had buried the treasure?
3. Describe the scene when the pirates arrived at the place where the treasure had been buried.
4. What had become of the treasure?

After Your Reading

Questions for Discussion

1. Which scenes from the story do you remember especially well? Which characters from the story seem to you to be the most believable or the most "well developed"? Give a few examples of characters that weren't fully developed. Why do you think Stevenson developed some characters with vivid descriptions of their dress, appearance, mannerisms, etc., and others he might only have named.

In the first chapter, we are introduced to most of the primary characters. How does Stevenson use comparison and contrast to characterize Doctor Livesey and Billy Bones in the first chapter?

Think about the interaction of the characters in the story. Discuss how the theme of good vs. evil is represented by these characterizations. How can the words used in descriptions make us feel differently about different characters?

2. What is the story mainly about? Is Jim Hawkins or Long John Silver the hero of the story? Is the story about growing up and becoming an adult, or is it about greed and the influence of money on honest people? Use specific examples from the story to illustrate your points.

In several episodes of the story, Jim seems to be growing into an English gentleman like the Captain, Dr. Livesey and Squire Trelawney. At other times, Jim seems especially attracted to the pirates of the story. Can you think of a certain event or series of events that caused Jim to finally side with the gentlemen and the "faithful side"? Can you think of events or influences in your own life that might be similar to those in the story? Use specific examples from the story to illustrate your points.

3. One motif, or theme, of the story was solitude. How do you think the Admiral Benbow Inn, the *Hispaniola* and the island itself all contributed to this theme?

Another motif in the story is the color black. How many instances can you remember where the color black was mentioned? What symbolism do you think Stevenson meant to associate with the color?

4. There are many symbols used in the story. Think back to the episode in which Jim takes the handmade coracle across the bay and overcomes the pirate on the large ship. Can you think of another story you may have heard in which a young boy overpowers a much larger, more powerful enemy?

Discuss how the map Jim and his mother found in Billy Bones' trunk is at once so powerful, and at the same time essentially useless.

Vocabulary Exercises

Research: Pirate Expressions

Many of the phrases in the story refer to nautical terms, or phrases that were used in sailing during the 18th century. Try to find the meaning for the following terms and phrases that Long John used in the story. You can use either a dictionary or the internet.

"I'll give my davy..."

"You may lay to that."

Doubloons or pieces of eight

Keel hauling

"Stand by to go about"

Continue To Next Page...

18th Century Words and Phrases

In addition to the nautical phrases that peppered Silver’s speech, there are many terms used throughout the book that might seem a little strange. Here are a few from selected chapters. Match the correct definitions in the right column with the vocabulary words in the left column. You can use a dictionary or the internet. There are several nautical dictionaries listed in the reference section below that might help. The first word has been completed for you.

Words	Answers	Definitions
Abeam	9	1) A wheelbarrow
Capstan		2) A large cylinder used to haul up anchors or sails.
Doldrums		3) In this case, the white powder used on wigs worn by noblemen like the Doctor and the Squire.
Fidges		4) “Bleeding” was a medical treatment of the time. A doctor would make a cut and allow the patient to bleed to let the “bad blood” out.
Forecastle		5) From “fidgets”; meaning trembles or shakes.
Gallipot		6) Sailor’s term for avoiding duty. (Or “doody”, as Silver said.)
Gammon		7) The forward part of the ship where the crew’s quarters were.
Hand barrow		8) A small rope. This can also be a “ <i>painter</i> ”
Lanyard		9) At right angles to the sides of the ship.
Lillibullero		10) A political song written in 1686 to satirize James II of England. It had an immense popularity, and is said to have hastened the Revolution of 1688 in which James lost his kingship. It is often referred to in English literature.
Malingering		11) Clay pot used by pharmacists to store medicine
Opened a vein		12) Areas on the seas where there might be no wind for days or weeks due to currents and weather patterns.
Powder		13) Moving horizontally from side to side.
Scuttled		14) To deceive or trick.
Yawing		15) Sunk by making a hole through the keel.

End of Student Exercises

A Footnote for Parents/Teachers

Plot Synopsis

Part I The Old Buccaneer; Chapters 1-6

Set in the days of sailing ships and pirates, around the 1730's, *Treasure Island* recounts the journeys of Jim Hawkins and his search for the buried treasure of the infamous pirate, Captain Flint.

The story is narrated by Jim, and begins at the Admiral Benbow, an inn owned by Jim's parents. Billy Bones, a mysterious, scar-faced sailor, rents a room at the inn. He lives in fear of a 'one legged man' and continually warns Jim to keep a look out for him. One day 'Blind Pew' arrives, who gives him the 'black spot'; the mark of death. After Blind Pew leaves, Billy collapses and dies of "thundering apoplexy," possibly a stroke.

Jim finds a map in Billy's sea chest, and he and his mother have just enough time to hide before the pirates start to ransack the Inn looking for the map. Suddenly soldiers arrive and the pirates escape except for Blind Pew, who is accidentally trampled to death by the soldiers' horses.

Part II The Sea Cook; Chapters 7-12

Jim takes the map to Squire Trelawney and Doctor Livesey who realize that it is a treasure map showing where Captain Flint, an evil pirate who has died, buried his stolen fortune. The Squire and the Doctor decide to go on a treasure hunt, and invite Jim to join them. Trelawney buys a ship, the *Hispaniola*, and hires a crew headed by the good Captain Smollet. The cook is a one legged man called Long John Silver whom everyone seems to admire.

The ship sets sail and Captain Smollet immediately becomes suspicious of the crew, but no trouble develops. The night before they reach *Treasure Island*, Jim overhears Silver and other members of the crew plotting to kill them all. He suddenly realizes that Silver and most of the crew are actually pirates; former members of Captain Flint's crew. Jim warns the Doctor, Squire, and the Captain about the evil plans that are afoot.

Part III My Shore Adventure; Chapters 13-15

The Captain sends most of the pirates ashore as a reward for arriving at the Island. Jim decides foolishly at the last moment to go ashore. He hides in the jungle on the island.

In the jungle, Jim finds Ben Gunn, an ex-pirate who was marooned on the island three years ago by his crewmates. Ben swears he is no longer a pirate, and offers his help to Jim. Meanwhile the Captain and the others have abandoned the *Hispaniola*, and taken refuge in an old stockade on the Island.

Part IV The Stockade; Chapters 16-21

The pirates realize that their plans have been discovered, and attack the Captain and the others in an attempt to get the treasure map. Unsuccessful, they retreat. Jim finds his way to the stockade and spends a troubled night there. In the morning, Long John comes with a flag of truce, and offers them their lives in exchange for the map. There is a battle, and lives are lost on both sides. Captain Smollet is injured.

Part V My Sea Adventure; Chapters 22-27

In another youthful lapse of judgment, Jim decides to escape from the stockade and sneaks off without telling the others. He finds a boat that Ben Gunn had told him he had hidden and then sails out to the *Hispaniola* and cuts its anchor ropes, then falls asleep in the small boat.

In the morning, he is awakened by rough seas and narrowly escapes drowning. Luckily, he spots the drifting *Hispaniola* and manages to board her. There were only two pirates on board the ship, but one of them had been killed by the other while drunk. Jim winds up killing the other pirate, and sails the ship back to the cove and joins his friends at the stockade.

Part VI Captain Silver; Chapters 28-34

The stockade is now in the hands of the pirates. Jim is captured and is given the choice to join them. When he refuses the pirates want to kill him but Silver talks them out of it. Silver tells Jim that the Doctor has given him the map and abandoned the stockade in exchange for being allowed to go free, and that the pirates are now united with the others in trying to find the treasure. The pirates did not know Silver had the map and attempt to kill him, but he reveals the map and the hunt begins. The weather is tropically hot and the pirates are restless and eager to be done with the hunt. The reach the spot only to find the treasure is gone.

The pirates turn on Silver and are about to attack when a shot comes from the jungle that kills one of them. The Doctor and Ben Gunn appear and the remaining pirates run away to reach their boat. Jim and the others easily get to the boat before the pirates and destroy it. At this point Ben Gunn lets the others know he found the treasure years ago and that it is in his cave.

The treasure is transported from the cave to the *Hispaniola*. Silver still claims to be on the Doctor's side and helps them at every opportunity. After the treasure is stowed, the remaining crew, including Silver, leave Treasure Island and the last couple of pirates behind. They first sail the *Hispaniola* to America to hire crewmembers to replace those lost on the island. Overnight Silver steals a portion of the treasure and escapes. The crew return home, the Captain makes a full recovery, Ben Gunn becomes a respectable citizen and Jim swears never to go chasing treasure again. Long John Silver, the one-legged man, is never heard from again.

Answers to Vocabulary Matching Exercise

<i>Hand barrow</i>	Chp. 1	A wheelbarrow
<i>Capstan</i>	Chp. 1	A large cylinder used to haul up anchors or sails.
<i>Powder</i>	Chp. 1	In this case, the white powder used on wigs worn by noblemen like the Doctor and the Squire.
<i>Opened a vein</i>	Chp. 2	"Bleeding" was a medical treatment of the time. A doctor would make a cut and allow the patient to bleed to let the "bad blood" out.
<i>Fidges</i>	Chp. 3	From "fidgets"; meaning trembles or shakes.
<i>Malingering</i>	Chp. 4	Sailor's term for avoiding duty. (Or "doody", as Silver said.)
<i>Forecastle</i>	Chp. 9	The forward part of the ship where the crew's quarters were.
<i>Lanyard</i>	Chp. 10	A small rope. This can also be a " <i>painter</i> "
<i>Abeam</i>	Chp. 10	At right angles to the sides of the ship.
<i>Lillibullero</i>	Chp. 16	A political song written in 1686 to satirize James II of England. It had an immense popularity, and is said to have hastened the Revolution of 1688 in which James lost his kingship. It is often referred to in English literature.
<i>Gallipot</i>	Chp. 17	Clay pot used by pharmacists to store medicine
<i>Doldrums</i>	Chp. 21	Areas on the seas where there might be no wind for days due to currents and weather patterns.
<i>Yawing</i>	Chp. 24	Moving horizontally from side to side.
<i>Gammon</i>	Chp. 30	To deceive or trick.
<i>Scuttled</i>	Chp. 33	Sunk a boat or ship by making a hole through the keel.

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