

Christ Presbyterian Academy
7th grade English
Treasure Island Study Guide

ABSTRACT:

Adventure! Most young people crave it in some form, and most adults wish they could recapture it. The pages of *Treasure Island* expose the world of a young boy who is forced to become heroic for the sake of his widowed mother. He learns the pain of treachery, the choice of duty over pleasure, the value of true friends, the cost of evil, and the peace of a job well done. Archetypes abound from the one-legged, duplicitous pirate Long John Silver, to the doctor/barrister Dr. Livsey who is truth incarnate. Jim begins his heroic journey as a boy who steals a treasure map from a deceased pirate, which brings the wrath of other pirates upon his head. Fortunately, he allies himself with the right sort of man to find the treasure, confiscate it, and return home victorious. It is the age-old plot of good versus evil in which evil finally succumbs and hope in all that is good and true is justified.

AUTHOR:

Robert Louis Stevenson lived a life as adventurous as the books he wrote, which also include *Kidnapped* (1886). Born in Edinburgh in 1850, he was the child of a lighthouse builder. Not satisfied to live in Scotland, the world became his home. He married an American, traveled to the Adirondacks, Switzerland, France, and finally died on the island of Samoa in 1894.

ACTIVITY: Choose to do either the test or the newspaper, NOT BOTH!
Activity is due: Aug. 18, 2009

TROUBLE ON TREASURE ISLAND

Your teacher needs your help! She has completely forgotten to make a test for the end of the *Treasure Island* unit. Your job is to create a test for the book using the following guidelines:

1. Your test must be typed in 12 pt. Times New Roman font.
2. You must include at least **10** multiple choice questions, **10** true/false questions, **10** fill in the blank questions, and **5** discussion questions.
 - **Multiple-choice questions**—These questions should cover any of the facts that you find important in the novel. If you need ideas, think about characters, setting, or plot. Try to make sure that you cover all of the important aspects of the novel at least once in your test.
 - **True/False questions**—These questions should be tricky...not obvious. For example, do not include a question on the test that says, "True or False/Jim is a girl." ☺ Think like a teacher!
 - **Fill in the blank questions**—You may choose to use a word bank for these questions. These types of questions would be a good way to review vocabulary from the book, which you need to include on your test.
 - **Discussion questions**—Be creative with these, and use the following words to help you come up with ways to create your questions:

Create	Defend
Design	Criticize
Formulate	Support
Predict	Compare
Plan	Contrast

Each one of these words is a great way to begin your discussion questions and may give you some clues to think about as you write your test.
3. Make your document look like a test! Leave blanks for answers and number your questions. Create a set of directions for each section of your test, and label each section so that your test is easy to read.

Treasure Island Newspaper
Using Microsoft Word
(Please choose this activity **only** if you are familiar with Word)

You are a junior reporter in the port town of Bristol, England, in the year of our Lord 1730. On a sunny day in September, you notice an amazing sight at the docks. Four unlikely adventurers have returned: a boy named Jim Hawkins, the renowned Dr. Livsey, the loquacious Mr. Trelawny, and a weatherworn Ben Gunn. Your editor wants some stories of their adventure. You will need to write these articles:

1. A lead story: a news story on the adventure of the *Hispaniola*
2. An editorial: opinion who actually deserves the treasure if anyone
4. A feature interview with Jim Hawkins
5. At least one picture with a description underneath
6. At least one appropriate advertisement

You may want to read a couple of articles from your local newspaper to gain a feel for what a news article includes. The first paragraph of each article contains the five W's: WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, AND WHY or sometimes HOW. The rest of the news story follows an inverted pyramid, with the most important information first and the least important facts last.

Requirements for articles:

- Each article should be 100-200 words long
- Each article should use specific examples from the novel
- The lead story should be written in third person only
- The editorial and feature interview may use first person
- Punctuation and capitalization count

How to create the newspaper

You will create a **1 to 2 page** newsletter / newspaper.

1. Using Microsoft Word, select NEWSLETTERS from the project gallery.
2. Choose the newsletter format you prefer.
3. Fill in the name of your newspaper, company (keep in mind you are living in Bristol, England).
4. Click SAVE and EXIT to enter the newsletter editing mode.
5. Click on text areas to create text boxes so you can put your own text in places.
6. **I would recommend you type your articles, then copy and paste into text boxes.**
7. Use the side scroll bar to move from page to page of the newsletter.
8. Once you are finished, print and bring to share with class.