

Reading Comprehension – Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson

But though I was so terrified by the idea of the seafaring man with one leg, I was far less afraid of the captain himself than anybody else who knew him. There were nights when he took a deal more rum and water than his head would carry; and then he would sometimes sit and sing his wicked, old, wild sea-songs, minding nobody; but sometimes he would call for glasses round and force all the trembling company to listen to his stories or bear a chorus to his singing. Often I have heard the house shaking with "Yo-ho-ho, and a bottle of rum," all the neighbours joining in for dear life, with the fear of death upon them, and each singing louder than the other to avoid remark. For in these fits he was the most overriding companion ever known; he would slap his hand on the table for silence all round; he would fly up in a passion of anger at a question, or sometimes because none was put, and so he judged the company was not following his story. Nor would he allow anyone to leave the inn till he had drunk himself sleepy and reeled off to bed.

His stories were what frightened people worst of all. Dreadful stories they were - about hanging, and walking the plank, and storms at sea, and the Dry Tortugas, and wild deeds and places on the Spanish Main. By his own account he must have lived his life among some of the wickedest men that God ever allowed upon the sea, and the language in which he told these stories shocked our plain country people almost as much as the crimes that he described. My father was always saying the inn would be ruined, for people would soon cease coming there to be tyrannized over and put down, and sent shivering to their beds; but I really believe his presence did us good. People were frightened at the time, but on looking back they rather liked it; it was a fine excitement in a quiet country life, and there was even a party of the younger men who pretended to admire him, calling him a "true sea-dog" and a "real old salt" and such like names, and saying there was the sort of man that made England terrible at sea.



1 What could the captain consume in quantity that others could not?

2 Can a house 'shake' from singing? Explain this statement.

3 Who was allowed to leave the inn first?

4 What was it about the captain's stories that were so frightening?

5 Why did the narrator's father think he would be 'ruined' by the captain?

6 What is meant by the words in the last sentence 'that made England terrible at sea'?

7 Create your own pirate in the space below. Make sure that you use colour to bring his/her features to life. Remember to give him/her a name.

Year 9 Homework Sheet for Week 7

Name: _____

Critical Reading

Includes – Novels, non-fiction books, magazines, newspapers and as negotiated with teacher

Book: _____

Author: _____

In your own words, summarise your reading for this week.

Spelling		
a	b	c
mobile	numbing	prominence
moon	oozes	receivers
newborn	Orion	sulphuric
night	payload	techniques
octane	pigment	terrestrial
orbit	plunging	titanium
ore	processor	trajectory
part	protostar	transmitters
plane	re-entering	ultraviolet
Pluto	reactor	Uranus

Superficial Spelling

Circle the correctly spelt word in each group of words below.

hydrogen	hydogen	hidrogen
technicues	techniques	technekes
eliptical	elliptical	elliptikle
weightles	waitless	weightless

Common Curriculum Elements

CCE Number 37 is **Analysing**. This CCE is very common! This week your task is to have a look at the old and the new Woolworths logo below and decide why the company changed it.



Who is the target audience? How can you tell?

Would you recommend this reading to your friends?

Why/why not?

Parent Comment & Signature: _____

Teacher Comment & Signature: _____