

The Mysterious Island

Photocopiable

While reading

Chapters 1–3

1 Which of these are right about Cyrus Smith?

Write ✓ next to the right sentences.

- a He was a prisoner in Virginia.
- b He was a strong man.
- c He did not know how to swim.
- d He was Pencroft's master.
- e He thought somebody carried him to the cave.
- f His shoes were in the sea, not in the cave.

2 Who did it? Choose the right words and complete the sentences.

Cyrus Pencroft Nab Spillet Herbert

- a carried the dog.
- b fell or jumped into the sea.
- c wrote in his notebook.
- d couldn't find his master.
- e shouted 'Land!'

3 Write why.

- a The men threw everything out of the balloon.
.....
- b The cave near the beach was a good place for them.
.....
- c Nab's eyes were red.
.....
- d Spillet looked very tired.
.....
- e Pencroft woke every hour the first night on the island.
.....

4 Answer these questions.

- a Where did the four men, the boy and the dog want to go with the balloon?
.....
- b What did they throw out of the balloon?
.....
- c What did Pencroft and Herbert find in the rocks?
.....

Chapters 4–7

5 Complete with only one word.

The four men and the boy of things for their life on the island and Spillet them down in his notebook. One day, they a big box on the beach. They into the box: everything from Spillet's notebook was there. They thought this was very mysterious. Who the things into the box?

6 What did Herbert learn on the island? Put the letters in the right place.

Herbert was a quick learner. He learned to make EORPS and catch SFHI. He learned to UIDLB with OWDO. Spillet helped him to read and EIRTW. Cyrus taught him the story of EACMRIA.

7 Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)? Change the wrong sentences.

- a Each man had something to do on the island.
- b Top barked loudly because there was someone in the cave in the rock.
- c Cyrus threw a stone into the opening in the floor of the cave: he wanted to know where the sea was.

Chapters 8–10

8 Match A and B.

A	B
Mystery # 1	A bottle to help Herbert.
Mystery # 2	A big box with a lot of things.
Mystery # 3	Great wall of water breaks the pirate ship.
Mystery # 4	A strong white light lit a strange object in the water.
Mystery # 5	Something carries Cyrus from the beach to the cave.

9 What happened first? Number the sentences 1–6.

- a The men in the cave heard a loud noise and saw a great light outside.
- b A big wall of water hit the ship.
- c The pirate ship came near the beach. They were staying for the night.
- d The pirates shouted for help because the ship was going down.

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- e Pencroft swam to the ship and climbed on. He saw the men and the guns.
- f The next morning, the ship came nearer. It hit the rocks with its guns. Then it hit the cave.

10 Check the things they wanted: a or b?

- The pirates wanted ...
- a to kill a lot of people on the island.
 - b to have a good time with the women on the ships.
- Pencroft wanted ...
- a to swim under the pirates' ship.
 - b to know how many pirates there were on the ship.
- Cyrus wanted ...
- a to know what really happened to the ship.
 - b to find dead pirates.

11 Who is talking to whom?

- a 'There are five of us and fifty of them' to
- b 'Now the pirates know we are here. We'll be prisoners in our cave' to
- c 'It's from a torpedo' to
- d 'This is the answer to our big question' to
- e 'Did we have a visitor' to

Chapters 11–13

12 Cyrus talks to Nemo. Write the questions.

Cyrus: Hello Captain Nemo!
Nemo:?
Cyrus: Yes, of course I know your name!
?
Nemo: I am an Indian.
Cyrus:?
Nemo: Yes, I fought for my country.
Cyrus:?
Nemo: I brought the *Nautilus* here because I wanted to live quietly, away from the world.
Cyrus:?
Nemo: I want you to do the following for me: when I die, take this box with you and leave the *Nautilus*.

13 Are these right (✓) or wrong (X) about Nemo?

- a He was born in England but went to live in India as a child.
- b He was a very good student.
- c He built a submarine: the *Nautilus*.
- d Nemo is his real name.
- e He went to the island when all his friends were dead.

14 Who says this? Write the names from the box.

Cyrus	Pencroft	Nab	Nemo
Spillet	Herbert		

- a 'I want to marry and have a family.'
.....
- b 'I want to tell the world our story on the island.'
.....
- c 'I want to follow my master.'
.....
- d 'I love ships. I want to be a captain.'
.....
- e 'I now know some more new stories.'
.....
- f 'I want to die in the *Nautilus*.'
.....

15 Which of these is right?

- 1 Captain Nemo's ship was good for their life on the island because ...
 - a they went to America.
 - b they visited other islands and found different fruit and trees there.
 - c they went into the big cave many times.
- 2 One day Herbert was at the window and he ...
 - a called Pencroft because he was not well.
 - b saw a strange bird in the sky.
 - c saw smoke coming from a ship.
- 3 When they saw the smoke, they ...
 - a were afraid and closed the window.
 - b got green wood and made a big fire on top of the rock wall.
 - c got into their boat and went down into the cave again.

After reading

16 A time line

Draw a time line. Show ten important things in the story of *The Mysterious Island*.

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Chapters 1–3

1 These are important names in the story. Match.

- a Gideon Spillet ...
 - b Top ...
 - c Herbert ...
 - d Pencroft ...
 - e Nab ...
 - f Cyrus ...
- 1 is strong and not afraid.
 - 2 worked for a newspaper.
 - 3 is Cyrus's man.
 - 4 is a boy.
 - 5 is Cyrus's dog.
 - 6 is a seaman.

Chapters 4–7

2 Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?

Change the wrong sentences.

- a Two men always stayed and watched the fire.
- b The ropes around the box on the beach were wet, but inside the box was dry.
- c The sun shone and the men and the boy enjoyed the colours of the Atlantic.
- d The water was cold: there were fish at the bottom.
- e Top stopped in the cave: the floor of the cave opened in front of him.

3 Look at this picture. What did the men do for their new home? Complete using the right word. The first letter will help you.



- a Pencroft and Spillet made r.....
- b Herbert and Nab made b....., c..... and t..... out of wood.
- c Cyrus made a f.....
- d He also made s..... on the walls of the cave.
- e They made more w..... and light came in.

Chapters 8–10

4 Answer these questions.

- a Why didn't the men want to show any sign of the cave house?
.....
- b Why did the men have to wait to get to the pirate ship after the great wall of water?
.....
- c Why did they go to the ship many times?
.....
- d Why did Top bark when Herbert was ill?
.....
- e Why did the mysterious friend want to see the men?
.....

5 Choose the right words for these sentences.

- a Pencroft swam to the pirate ship with his knife *between his teeth / in his hand*.
- b The pirates' boss was *the most famous and dangerous / the richest and strongest* pirate on the sea.
- c The pirates on the ship talked about *the women on ships and on the quiet Pacific islands / the food and drink on the ship*.
- d After the great wave hit the pirate ship, there were some pirates in the water but others were *on the beach / inside the ship*.
- e On the next days, Pencroft and Nab swam to the pirate ship many times and found *food, guns and money / food, clothes and guns*.

Chapters 11–13

6 Find five mistakes in Captain Nemo's story and correct them.

'The *Nautilus* will never go to sea again because the mouth of the cave fell in when the great wind came. I am weak. I am dying. I will die in two or three days. When I am dead, leave the *Nautilus* and take this box with you. You will be rich one day. Leave the boat here. When you leave, open the white door and the wind will come in. The *Nautilus* will go down and I want to leave it. Now, please, have tea with me before I die.'