

Robinson Crusoe

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Level 3



WORDS USED

Story 1	Story 2	Story 3	Story 4	Story 5
KEY WORDS				
bend bundle gather root snapped son	blanket chatter crept curtain enjoy freeze	class crack finally hang replied thirty	desk hall jar job sidewalk special	bench chance coach lose team worry
SPECIAL WORDS				
England London York	Africa Brazil captain Orinoco pirate plantation	calendar fortress mast oar powder raft	deliver guilt parrot prayer raisins tobacco	barley bran bushel earth rice scarf
NECESSARY WORDS				
gun longing mainly September ship sick	cabin English learn north pound sail sugar teeth trade wreck	against barrel cave chain God island meat mile post rat settle Sunday tide tool	also Bible die dream dry fast forgive grape hid mind peace rum season weak	broke dried earthen flat grown hour month Poll pot raked shake shaped shot thin

Long for the Sea



Robinson Crusoe left his home in York, England, and went to Hull. There he went on board a ship which was later wrecked near Yarmouth. He walked on to London to find another ship.

- Preview:**
1. Read the name of the story.
 2. Look at the picture carefully.
 3. Read the sentences under the picture.
 4. Read the first two paragraphs of the story.
 5. Then, answer the following question.


You learned from your preview that Robinson Crusoe had wanted to go to sea

- a. for a year.
 b. for many years.
 c. all his life.
 d. for a few years.


Turn to the Comprehension Check on page 10 for the right answer.

Now read the story.

Read to find out how much Robinson Crusoe wanted to go to sea.



Song for the



Sea

I was almost 19 when I set foot on that first ship. It was on September 1, 1651. I had walked two days from my home in York, England, down to the sea. Now I was off to London on my first sea trip.

All my life I had had deep inside me this great longing to go to sea. It was like a great tree root growing deep within me, getting bigger and bigger.

My father and mother wanted me to stay home. I was their last son. One had been killed fighting for England. As for the other son, no one knew what had happened to him.

A year ago, my father had talked to me. He would do well by me. There was the big farm and lots of money for me. Crying, my father had said, "If you go to sea, you will live to be sad about it."

I really tried to stay home. But the pull of the sea was too strong.

Down at the sea, I had met a friend who took me to his father's ship. He told me to gather up my things and just come on board.

A short trip to London would let me find out for sure if I really wanted the life of the sea. Quickly, I put my bundle of clothes on board ship.

The first day at sea turned

out to be a bad start. Almost at once, a strong wind blew up. It made our ship bend over and back up, again and again. I got very seasick. I was so frightened that I told myself I would surely go back home. My father was right.

But two days later, I was feeling fit and fine again. The wind was quiet. The tiny waves danced in the sun. The sea was the most beautiful thing I had ever seen. By the end of five days, the call of the sea was as strong as ever.

Then came a wind blowing so hard the wrong way that we could not go the way we wanted. After eight days, the wind turned into a terrible storm. Our ship rolled and rocked. Water came in faster than we could get it out. Everyone was frightened. There was nothing to do but leave the ship. The owner fired the guns for help and shouted, "Everyone gather on top!" At last, a small boat came and took us off. With the wind and the waves high around us, we looked back at our ship. It had snapped into pieces! In just 15 minutes it went down into the stormy sea!

Rowing very hard, we got to land at last. We reached and took hold of some little tree

roots sticking out and pulled our little boat up close. If they had snapped off, we would have fallen into the water. But we were lucky.

The people in the town gave us food, clothes, and money. They took us into their homes. How glad we were to be safe!

Two days later, out walking, I saw my friend again. That was when he told his father that I had gone on this trip just to find out if I liked seagoing.

On hearing this, his father said to me, "Young man, you should never go to sea again! Take this as a sign to you."

Then the owner thought about his ship down at the bottom of the sea. "Why," he said, "maybe we lost our ship because of you. Never again will I set foot on the same ship with you!"

When next I saw him, the owner was more kindly. But still he said, "Young man, DO NOT go to sea. If you do, only bad things will happen to you. Many times you will think of your father's words."

But again, I would not listen to my head. Why? I really can't say. My will just would not bend. Picking up my bundle of clothes, off I went, walking to London.



ong for the Sea



COMPREHENSION CHECK

Preview answer:

c. all his life.

Choose the best answer.

1. His longing to go to sea was
 - a. like going on a long trip.
 - b. a great, growing tree root.
 - c. something he sometimes wanted.
 - d. a deep wanting that grew and grew.

2. His father wanted him to
 - a. go to sea.
 - b. buy a big farm.
 - c. fight for England.
 - d. stay at home.

3. He tried to stay at home because
 - a. his friend's father told him not to go to sea.
 - b. the ship's owner would not go on board ship with him again.
 - c. he was needed at home to fight for England.
 - d. his father and mother would be sad if he went to sea.

4. The first day at sea,
 - a. the wind blew very hard.
 - b. the sea was beautiful.
 - c. there was a terrible storm.
 - d. the ship went down.

5. After eight days of the storm,
 - a. they got to London.
 - b. the wind was quiet.
 - c. everyone was sea sick.
 - d. they left the ship.

6. They were lucky when they got to land because
 - a. they rowed very hard.
 - b. they could pull the boat up close.
 - c. the tree roots snapped off.
 - d. the boat did not turn over.

7. His friend's father said that the ship going down was
 - a. a bad start for him.
 - b. what his father said would happen.
 - c. a sign to him not to go to sea again.
 - d. what happens on most sea trips.

8. At the end of the story, he
 - a. is going back to sea.
 - b. gives up a life on the sea.
 - c. goes to live with his mother and father.
 - d. goes to live in London.

9. Another name for the story could be
 - a. "A Storm at Sea."
 - b. "Do as Your Father Tells You To Do."
 - c. "A Trip to London."
 - d. "A Bad Start, But Not an End."

10. This story is mainly about
 - a. life at sea.
 - b. a young man's first sea trip.
 - c. a ship going down at sea.
 - d. leaving home for the first time.

Check your answers with the key on page 67.