

Practice text: Treasure Island

Cracking the questions

Question	Answer	CD/Mark	Useful strategies
1. Circle the correct option to complete each of the sentences below. (a) The narrator was delivering a note that was addressed to: the squire the Spy-glass John Silver (b) To get there he had to walk through the: docks ships carts taverns	(a) John Silver (b) the docks	2b 1 mark	<i>Question focus: retrieve and record information.</i> Strategies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Consider where in the text you will find the answer. Carefully read that part of the text, underlining the information you need.
2. How did the narrator know where to find John Silver?	He was told to go to the sign of the "Spy-glass" (line 2).	2b 1 mark	<i>Question focus: retrieve and record information.</i> Strategies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Where in the text do you think you'll find the answer to the question? Scan the relevant part of the text for references to where the narrator had to go. Carefully read the relevant paragraph(s).
3. Find and copy two words or phrases from the text that show the Spy-glass is a pleasant place.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "bright enough" (line 8) "sign was newly painted" (line 8) "neat red curtains" (line 9) "cleanly sanded" (line 9) "pretty clear" (line 10) 	2a 2 marks	<i>Question focus: explore the meaning of words in context.</i> Strategies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Scan the text for words and phrases to use in your answer. Award 1 mark for each appropriate word or phrase given, up to a total of 2 marks.
4. (a) What is the narrator's first impression of Long John Silver? Tick one. <input type="checkbox"/> cheerful <input type="checkbox"/> surly <input type="checkbox"/> cruel <input type="checkbox"/> aggressive (b) Find and copy a phrase from the text to support your answer.	(a) cheerful (b) "intelligent and smiling" "in the most cheerful spirits"	2d 2 marks	<i>Question focus: explain inferences and justify with evidence.</i> Strategies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Consider where in the text you are likely to find the answer to the question. Scan that part of the text for reference to Long John Silver. Carefully read the relevant paragraph(s) Select words from the text to use in your answer.
5. Find and copy two similes used to describe John Silver.	"(hopping about upon it) like a bird" (line 17). "(a face) as big as a ham" (line 17).	2g 2 marks	<i>Question focus: identify how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases.</i> Strategies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Consider where in the text you are likely to find a description of John Silver. Scan the relevant part of the text for similes. Award 1 mark each for accurate quotation of similes.

<p>6. Do you think the narrator knew he was going to be a cabin boy? Yes / No Use evidence from the text to support your answer.</p>	<p>Accept an answer that is supported by ideas and evidence from the text. No. He took the <i>"opportunity to see some more of the ships and seamen"</i>. If he'd known he would be a cabin boy he would have told them. Yes. The squire gave him <i>"a note addressed to John Silver"</i> and he would probably have read the note on his way.</p>	<p>2d 2 marks</p>	<p><i>Question focus: explain and justify inferences with evidence.</i> Strategies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Skim read the whole text, looking for evidence one way or another. Underline all the evidence you find, and use the word and phrases you underlined as evidence in your answer. <p>There is no mark for the first part of the question. Award the mark if the answer is supported by appropriate evidence.</p> </p>
<p>7. Based on what you already know of the narrator, what does the dialogue at the end of the extract suggest might happen to the boy next? Use evidence from the text to support your prediction.</p>	<p>The narrator becomes John Silver's cabin boy. Evidence includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> He was overjoyed at the opportunity to see more of the ships and seamen. He was obedient (he did precisely what the squire asked of him) and polite (he addressed John Silver as <i>"Mr Silver, sir?"</i>). He thought that John Silver was <i>"intelligent and smiling"</i> He's brave. He <i>"plucked up courage"</i> in spite of being <i>"almost too afraid to enter"</i>. </p>	<p>2e 1 mark</p>	<p><i>Question focus: predict what might happen from details stated and implied.</i> Strategies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Carefully reread the dialogue, considering the question. Scan the text for all information about the narrator. Underline ideas you might use in your answer. <p>Award 2 marks for an acceptable point supported by text-based evidence.</p> </p>
<p>8. Using information from the text, show whether each statement is true or false. The narrator was looking for a sign with a brass telescope. There was sawdust on the floor. It was difficult to see in the tavern because it was full of tobacco smoke. John Silver had only one leg.</p>	<p>T The narrator was looking for a sign with a brass telescope. F There was sawdust on the floor. F It was difficult to see in the tavern because it was full of tobacco smoke. T John Silver had only one leg.</p>	<p>2c 1 mark</p>	<p><i>Question focus: summarise main events from more than one paragraph.</i> Strategies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Scan the text looking for words in the questions. If you can't find the words, consider where in the text the information should be and read that part carefully. </p>
<p>9. List two ways in which you would know this text wasn't set in the 21st century.</p>	<p>The setting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The docks are busy with <i>"a great crowd of people and carts and bales"</i> (lines 5–6). The narrator is not given an address and street number, but a description of a place. Clouds of tobacco smoke. <p>The language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>"When I had done breakfasting"</i> (line 1) <i>"seafaring men"</i> (line 12) <i>"such is my name, to be sure. And who may you be?"</i> (line 24) The narrator is about to become a cabin boy. </p> </p>	<p>2f 2 marks</p>	<p><i>Question focus: explain how narrative content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole.</i> Strategies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Skim read the whole text whilst considering the question. </p>