

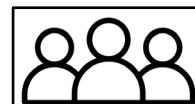
## **Year 7: Treasure Island Key Information Sheet**

### **Context**

- Written by Robert Louis Stevenson in the 1880s.
- Britain was known for seafaring.
- The 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries were times of exploration, especially the East and America (discovered in the late 15<sup>th</sup> century).
- The golden age of pirates was 1650-1680.
- Piracy often occurred in the Caribbean and the Pacific Ocean.

### **Key Events**

- Billy Bones, a pirate with a hidden treasure map in his chest, arrives at The Admiral Benbow Inn where Jim Hawkins lives with his parents. Jim's father is ill and dies.
- Billy Bones is given the 'Black Spot' by Blind Pew and drops down dead. Jim and his mother escape from the Inn with the treasure map just before Blind Pew and a band of pirates arrive back looking for it. Blind Pew is killed.
- Jim gives the map to Squire Trelawney and Dr Livesey and they decide to get a ship and sail to the island in search of the treasure.
- Squire Trelawney acquires a ship, the Hispaniola, in Bristol and hires Long John Silver as the ship's cook. Long John helps the Squire recruit the rest of the crew. Unknown to the Squire these men are all part of Long John's band of pirates.
- Whilst sailing to the island Jim overhears Long John talking to the other pirates about their plan to mutiny. He tells the Squire, the doctor and Captain Smollett.
- When they reach the island, the pirates go ashore and the others escape with supplies to the Stockade which is on the island.
- Jim meets Ben Gunn, a pirate who has been marooned on the island.
- There are fights between the pirates and the others and eventually the doctor gives the map to the pirates. Dr Livesey knows that the treasure has already been moved to a cave by Ben Gunn.
- Meanwhile Jim takes control of the Hispaniola after he fights with, and kills, Israel Hands.
- When the pirates discover the treasure is gone, there is a fight and the pirates flee the scene.
- Jim and the others move the treasure to the ship and set off to sail home. During the journey, Long John sneaks off with some of the treasure and is never heard of again.
- Others in the ship happily settle with their portion of the treasure. Jim swears off treasure-hunting forever and suffers from nightmares about the sea and gold coins.



## **Main Characters**

### **Jim Hawkins**

The first-person narrator of almost the entire novel. Jim is the son of an innkeeper and is probably in his early teens. He is eager and enthusiastic to go to sea and hunt for treasure.

### **Long John Silver**

The cook on the voyage to Treasure Island. Silver is the secret ringleader of the pirate band. Silver is deceitful and disloyal.

### **Dr Livesey**

The local doctor, Dr. Livesey is wise and practical. He is confident and stands up to the pirates, (including Billy Bones at the beginning of the novel).

### **Billy Bones**

Billy Bones is a pirate who comes to stay at the Admiral Benbow Inn to hide from Long John Silver and the other pirates. He has the treasure map hidden in his chest. He drinks a lot of rum and often gets loud and obnoxious (unpleasant and offensive) when he is drunk.

### **Ben Gunn**

A pirate who has been marooned on the island by Captain Flint. He dreams of eating cheese. He has moved the treasure to his cave.

## **Key Vocabulary**

<b><u>Word</u></b>	<b><u>Definition</u></b>	<b><u>Example Sentence</u></b>
Connoisseur	A person who is an expert at a particular skill	The chef was a connoisseur of seafood.
Villainous	A word to describe someone evil and unpleasant	She was a cruel and villainous person who enjoyed stealing from others.
Dishevelled	A word to describe someone or something that has an untidy appearance	His coat was dishevelled: it was time to buy a new one.
Mutiny	A challenge or fight against a leader(s)	They prepared to start a mutiny: they were unhappy about the government's decision.
Treacherous	A word to describe someone who cannot be trusted or betrays others	They were tricked by the treacherous criminal.

To maroon	To leave or abandon someone alone and in an isolated place (usually an island)	He was marooned on an island as punishment for sinking the ship.
Stockade	A barrier made from wooden posts	They hid behind the stockade while the enemy fired cannons.
Riotous	Causing chaos and disorder	Shouting, shoving, and screaming: The crowd were riotous.
Coracle	A small round boat made of wicker	Lazily, the coracle drifted down the river.
Duplicitous	A word to describe someone who lies and pretends to be someone they are not	She smiled sweetly; this was a duplicitous act. In reality, she was about to attack him.

### Key Descriptive Writing Techniques

<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Example</u>
Adjective	A word that describes a noun	Villainous, treacherous, bitter, cruel
Verb	A word that shows action	Whistling, skipping, smiling
Noun	A person, place, or thing	Liskeard, Otto, table, dog
Simple sentence	A group of words that contains a subject and a verb	The cat purred.
Compound sentence	A sentence with at least two independent clauses	The cat purred and the dog barked.
Complex sentence	A sentence with an independent clause and at least one dependant clause	The cat purred in the garden.
Simile	When two or more things are compared using 'as' or 'like'	He skipped like a kangaroo.
Personification	When something non-human is described as though it has human features or characteristics	Hungrily, the waves tore at the deck of the ship.
Metaphor	When something is described to be something it isn't	The waves were a wall that couldn't be overcome.