



ABOUT YOU

Answer the questions and talk about your ideas.

- 1 How easy do you think it is to survive on a desert island?
- 2 Have you ever heard any stories about people who were shipwrecked? What happened to them?
- 3 A reality TV programme was made about people surviving on an island. Why do you think this series was so popular?

Robinson Crusoe's ship is destroyed in a terrible storm. He is the only survivor and finds himself on a desert island. He uses a small rowing boat to save a lot of things from the ship – food, pistols, books, etc. He begins to explore the island and make plans for his survival.

- 1 Read the text. As you read, think about this question. What information does Crusoe look for as he explores the island?

Robinson Crusoe (1719) **Daniel Defoe**

My next work was to view the country, and find a proper place to **make camp**, and where to keep my things safe. Where I was, I knew not; whether on the continent or on an island; whether **inhabited** or uninhabited; whether in

- 5 danger of wild **beasts** or not. There was a hill about a mile from me, which rose up very high. I took one of the **pistols** and walked to the top of that hill. With great effort I got to the top, I saw that I was on an island surrounded on all sides by the sea: no land to be seen except some rocks, which lay far away; and two smaller islands to the west.
- 10

I found also that the island I was in was **barren**, and, uninhabited except by wild beasts and birds ...

I soon found the place I was in was not a good choice because it was too near the sea, and because there was no

- 15 **fresh water** near it; so I decided to find a more healthy and convenient **spot** of ground.

I considered several things important in my situation: firstly, health and fresh water, I just now mentioned;



- 20 secondly, **shelter** from the heat of the sun; thirdly, security from dangerous creatures, whether man or beast; fourthly, a view to the sea, that if God sent any ship in sight, I might not lose any opportunity for escape.

I found a good spot on the side of a hill where nothing could come down upon me from the top. Here, I decided to make

- 25 my home.

GLOSSARY

make camp	choose a place to eat, sleep, etc. when you are outdoors
inhabited	a place that has people living in it
beasts	animals, especially large or wild ones
pistols	small guns
barren	land that does not produce crops
fresh water	water from lakes, rivers, etc. that has no salt in it
spot	a small place
shelter	a place that protects you from bad weather or danger

2 Read the text again and answer the questions.

1 Do you think it is a good or bad thing that the island is uninhabited?

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2 Do you agree with Crusoe's list of priorities 1-4?

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3 Why do you think it was not a good idea to make camp near the sea?

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4 What challenges do you think Crusoe is going to have if he stays on the island for a long time?

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VOCABULARY

3 Complete the sentences with the words in the box. There is one extra word you do not need to use.

barren beasts make spot uninhabited

1 The flat desert was a place where nothing grew.

2 It was getting late so they decided to camp for the night.

3 The old village was completely because everybody had moved to the town.

4 We found a nice to have a picnic.

4 Put the words in the correct order.

Example: island / was / the / uninhabited

The island was uninhabited.

1 island / were / wild / there / on / the / beasts

2 drank / fresh / they / from / river / the / water

3 museum / collection / of / the / has / a / old / pistols

4 found / we / a / small / shelter / in / cave

WRITING

5 Robinson Crusoe kept a diary every day he was on the island. Here are his notes for the fifth day. Use the notes and add your own ideas to write his diary entry for that day.

Day 5. Very hot. Looked for food - found some fruit. Very hungry. Ate some biscuits from the ship. Explored another part of island. Saw some wild beasts. Came back. Swam, ate, slept. Strange dream. Heard noises in the night.

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SPEAKING

6 Imagine you are shipwrecked on a desert island. You save the following eight things:

- a telescope
- a small knife
- a lighter
- a map of the area
- a box of vitamin pills
- a hat
- a whistle
- sunglasses

On your own, put them in order from 1-8 (1 = most important, 8 = least important). Then work in a group and agree on the order.