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# ПРЕДИСЛОВИЕ

Дорогие друзья!

Книга для чтения на английском языке “Stories of Mystery and Adventure” предназначена для учащихся 7-х классов общеобразовательной школы. Истории, включенные в пособие, рассказывают о приключениях и загадочных происшествиях, которые произошли с героями различных книг. Некоторые из этих историй были написаны несколько столетий тому назад, и их авторы нам неизвестны. Именно такой является эпическая поэма о Беовульфе (Beowulf), герое древних англо-саксонских сказаний, созданная в конце VII — начале VIII века нашей эры. О сражении Беовульфа с чудовищем Гренделем (Grendel) и его матерью вы сможете прочитать в тексте “Beowulf”.

Некоторые истории, включенные в пособие, принадлежат перу известных авторов. К их числу относятся отрывки из романов «Приключения Гулливера» Джонатана Свифта и «Приключения Робинзона Крузо» Даниэля Дефо. Читая третью историю из этого сборника, вы узнаете, что прототипом главного героя книги Д. Дефо был реальный человек, шотландец Александр Селькирк (Alexander Selkirk), который действительно прожил в одиночестве на необитаемом острове несколько лет. Истории 6 и 7 познакомят вас с юными детективами, такими же подростками, как и вы, которым удалось вычислить вора, укравшего коллекцию старинных монет, и помочь офицерам полиции задержать его. Рассказ 8 в оригинале принадлежит перу известного английского автора Джерома К. Джерома, а история 10 написана Джоном Бакеном, писателем и государственным деятелем. Они заставят вас задуматься об опасности, которая скрыта в бездушных механизмах, и о таинственной власти окружающего мира над нами. Кроме того, в сборнике есть отрывок из дневника английского полярного исследователя Роберта Скотта. Вы также узнаете о том, кто такой

Вильгельм Завоеватель, что произошло во время знаменитой битвы при Гастингсе (1066 г.) и почему англичане ежегодно 5 ноября сжигают на костре чучело.

Как и предыдущие книги этой серии, данное пособие включает в себя различные задания, которые помогут вам лучше понять и обсудить прочитанное. Несомненно, полезными будут также размещенные после текстов глоссарии. Они предлагают перевод неизвестных вам слов и выражений. В конце книги находится список имен собственных с пояснениями. Каждая часть нашего сборника завершается заданием, выполняя которое вам будет необходимо воспользоваться Интернетом, чтобы найти информацию по той или иной теме для вашего выступления перед одноклассниками.

Желаем вам интересного и плодотворного чтения. Надеемся, что, работая с пособием, читая включенные в него истории, вы сможете сделать некоторые неожиданные открытия и повысить свой уровень владения языком.

*Авторы-составители*

# STORY 1. ADVENTURES OF ROBINSON CRUSOE

(after Daniel Defoe)

## Part 1



### 1. Read the text and say how Robinson got on the island.

My name is Robinson Crusoe. I was born in the city of Hull<sup>1</sup>, England. When I was a boy, my great wish was to go to sea. At the age of 18 in the centre of Hull I met my classmate, whose father was captain of a ship. My friend told me the ship was going to London that very day. "Would you like to come with us, Rob?" he asked me. And I agreed.

When we got out to sea, a strong wind rose and a very bad storm began. We got a **leak**<sup>2</sup> in the ship and understood that it could be full of water. Luckily, there was another ship

<sup>1</sup> Список имен собственных с пояснениями находится на с. 89

<sup>2</sup> Перевод выделенных в тексте слов можно найти в глоссарии (Glossary) после текста

not far and they sent a boat to save us. We got into the boat just in time, because some minutes later our ship **sank**. It took us several hours to reach the shore. When we were safe on land the captain said, "Young man, you should never go to sea again. The storm is a **sign** for you to stay at home." But I didn't pay much attention to his words. Very soon I found another ship whose captain allowed me to go to sea with him.

That voyage was successful, I enjoyed myself. The next one was not. We met a pirate ship and had to fight. Unfortunately, the pirates were too many, so they killed a lot of our people and took the rest as their **slaves**. I was among them. After some time I had a chance to run away in a boat. I made it go as fast as I could, for I was afraid my master would send a ship to catch me. But if he did so, I never knew it.

Later I saw a large ship. Its captain, an Englishman, invited me **on board**. I told him my story and he agreed to take me to England. But even this adventure was not enough for me to understand that I shouldn't go to sea any more. So after some time I was again on board a ship. Everything was good but then suddenly a wild storm began. The **huge** waves came upon us. We knew that our ship could sink. We put out the boat but the sea was really wild. Very soon a high wave turned over the boat, and threw us all into the water. I cannot tell what I felt when I got into the sea. But I swam very well and I tried to move to the shore. Each wave as it came was as high as a great hill, but each one took me a little nearer the shore. At last, more **dead** than **alive**, I was on a piece of the **rock**. When I was able to move, I ran as fast as I could to the shore. And there I sat down upon the grass, safe from the **fury** of the waves.

I couldn't see any men from my ship anywhere and I thought they were dead. I was alive but felt terrible. Wet to the **skin**, I had no food or water to drink. Then it was clear to me that

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there could live some wild animals on the land and they could be very dangerous. It soon grew dark, I climbed up a tree and spent the night there.

When I woke up, it was day. I saw that our ship was not far away. I decided to swim there and try to get some clothes and food. I **managed** to get on board, found some bread and other things. I had a real meal at last. What I needed most was a boat, but there were none. So I decided to make a **raft** to take all I could from the ship to the shore. It was hard work, but I did it. The next day I went back on board the ship. I worked for ten days. Soon a lot of things from the ship were already under the trees on the shore. Then another storm came and I couldn't see our ship any more.

On the shore I made a **tent** and a **fence** around it. After that I felt I could sleep more or less in peace. I also dug a very large **cave**, where I could keep a lot of things. Yet I did not know where I was, or if there were any other men near me. Not far from the shore there was a hill which rose high, so I went to its top to see what part of the world I was in. Then I saw I was on a **desert** island, with the sea all round me. There were no other people on it. I made my walks round the island. I hunted and one day caught a goat that grew **tame** with time. I also planted some **seeds** of **barley**. I found a few places where good fruit grew. Time passed quickly. I learned a lot of things about the place where I lived. In that part of the world there was no winter or summer as we have in England. There were dry and wet seasons. I knew when rainy periods came and was able to get prepared for them. I didn't see any wild animals or **savages** on my island.

One day I caught a young parrot and took it home with me. With time I taught it to speak, and it learnt to call me by my name in a very clear way. And I lived in this way for several years.

### Glossary

- leak** [li:k] — течь, протечка  
**sink (sank)** [sɪŋk] — идти ко дну  
**sign** [saɪn] — знак  
**slave** [sleɪv] — раб  
**on board** [ˈbɔ:d] — на борт  
**huge** [hju:dʒ] — огромный  
**dead** [ded] — мертвый  
**alive** [əˈlaɪv] — живой  
**rock** [rɒk] — скала  
**fury** [ˈfjʊəri] — ярость  
**skin** [skɪn] — кожа  
**manage** [ˈmænɪdʒ] — быть в состоянии  
**raft** [ra:ft] — плот  
**tent** [tent] — навес  
**fence** [fens] — изгородь  
**cave** [keɪv] — пещера  
**desert** [ˈdezət] — необитаемый  
**tame** [teɪm] — ручной  
**seed** [si:d] — зерно, семя  
**barley** [ˈbɑ:li] — ячмень  
**savage** [ˈsævɪdʒ] — дикарь

**2. Choose the appropriate words or word combinations and fill in the gaps. Write the appropriate letters into the table.**

- 1) Robinson Crusoe went on his first voyage ... .
  - a) at the age of 18
  - b) when he was at school
  - c) from the city of London
- 2) The first ship where Robinson was ... .
  - a) sailed without any problems
  - b) sank
  - c) reached the shore



**3. Read out of the story:**

- a) the sentences about Robinson's first voyage;
- b) the sentences that describe how Robinson ran away from the pirates;
- c) the paragraphs that give information about Robinson's life on the island.

**4. Decide if these facts are true (T), false (F) or not stated (NS).**

- 1) Robinson Crusoe was born in London. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Robinson began to love the sea when he was ten. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Robinson left Hull together with his classmate. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Robinson's first voyage was not successful. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Robinson managed to run away from the pirates at night.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 6) Robinson was taken to England in a large ship. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) The ship where Robinson was sank because of the wild storm. \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) Some sailors from the ship were saved. \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) Robinson's desert island was very large. \_\_\_\_\_
- 10) Robinson hunted for food on his island. \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Answer the questions.**

- 1) Where was Robinson born? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2) What was Robinson's dream when he was a boy? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Who was Robinson's first captain? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4) How did Robinson's first voyage finish? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5) What did Robinson's first captain tell him about his future voyages? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**7. Write a summary of the story.**

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**8. Speak about the story you have read. Mention:**

- what the story is about;
- what kind of character is described in the story;
- what the story can teach us;
- how the story impressed you.

**9. Give your opinion about the main character of the story.**

**10. On the Internet, find some information about what a person should do when he/she gets lost and is all alone in the woods or mountains. Be ready to speak about it.**