

Name _____

2017 Summer Reading for Rising Seventh Graders – MODEL

Text can be found, here: <http://bygosh.com/kids-classics/treasure-island/>

Book Title: Treasure Island		Author: Robert Louis Stevenson
Name of Character	Character's conflict: (internal/external)	Characterization: Identify and briefly describe each of the main characters in the book. Focus on internal characteristics and behavior, rather than on what the character "looks like."
Jim Hawkins	Internal conflict: Jim is just a kid, and so he makes judgments about other characters that are often incorrect.	<p>Jim is a young man who has not had many actual life experiences as his parents are raising him at their business, the Admiral Benbow Inn, which is in a cove. People come and go irregularly. Jim hears lots of stories, there, and he understands that there are different types of people because the Inn is visited by locals, such as the gentleman, Dr. Livesey, who contrasts sharply with the visiting sea-faring men, who are rough and uncultured. For example, when Jim meets Long John Silver, he incorrectly deduces him as "one of the best of possible shipmates," and vows, "I would have gone bail for the innocence of Long John Silver" (Chapter 8, n.p.). Jim decides this despite the fact that he has no real knowledge of Long John Silver, who is actually a ruthless murderer. His lack of life experience has left him unable to determine, accurately, the man's character.</p> <p>On the positive side, Jim is creative and intelligent. When Squire Trelawney finds a boy to help Jim's mother at the Inn while he is gone on his adventure, Jim tells us, "I am afraid I led that boy a dog's life, for as he was new to the work, I had a hundred opportunities of setting him right and putting him down, and I was not slow to profit by them" (Chapter 7, n.p.). Because the new errand boy had no idea what to expect when working at the Inn, Jim was able to get him to do all of Jim's chores and was bossy towards him as well.</p>
Long John Silver	Internal conflict: Long John Silver is a pirate, but he plans to be an actual gentleman in the future.	<p>Long John Silver is not your typical pirate. He speaks like a pirate and acts like a pirate, he is clever, sly, and has long-range plans. While Jim is hiding in the apple barrel, he hears Long John persuading Dick to join the crew, by telling him, "You're young, you are, but you're as smart as paint. I see that when I set my eyes on you, and I'll talk to you like a man" (Chapter 11, n.p.). Because Silver persuades Jim to do his bidding by flattering him and because he uses the same words to persuade Dick as he did to persuade Jim, we know that he is a smart and clever man, but we also know that he will flatter to get what he wants, and it works!</p> <p>Jim also hears Long John talk about the money he steals and murders for, "I puts it all away, some here, some there, and none too much anywheres, by reason of suspicion. I'm fifty, mark you; once back from this cruise, I set up gentleman in earnest" (Chapter 11, n.p.). Silver plans for this voyage to be his last as a pirate, and he wants to be a gentleman when he retires from piracy.</p>
<p>For this model, only two characters were used. You should do more, if your book has them. Any character who is important to the action of the story or is responsible for changes in the protagonist belongs on this chart.</p>		

Plot Elements: Complete the plot diagram with specific events from the book. [If your answers won't fit in the boxes (and well-crafted answers probably won't), type/write them out in on a separate sheet of paper.]

Exposition: A scary pirate has arrived at the Admiral Benbow Inn, and Jim Hawkins is terrified. When an old sea captain at the Inn ends up dead after being warned with the Black Spot – a pirate sign of impending vengeance -- and treasure maps are discovered among Billy Bones's belongings.

Main Conflict: Jim and a contingent of locals set out on an adventure to find the buried treasure. They must find it by the end of the story. This simple conflict changes once Jim knows about the mutiny of the hired hands on board the *Hispaniola*. Now, not only must Jim find the treasure, but he must return home with it, despite the fact that lots of people are trying to stop him.

Rising Action [Only one event of rising action has been completed for the model.]

1. Squire Trelawney, a gentleman, not a pirate, is tricked into hiring Long John Silver and his men for the adventure. Jim overhears Silver's plans for mutiny: "I'd have Cap'n Smollett navigate us half-way back again before I struck... I'll finish with 'em at the island, as soon's the blunt's on board... Only one thing I claim—I claim Trelawney. I'll wring his calf's head off his body with these hands..." (Chapter 11, n.p.). This intensifies the conflict because now Jim knows about the mutiny. He must tell the gentlemen at sea with him, and they must beat the pirates at their own game. Because Jim knows about the plan, he is in serious danger, and he must continue to act like he likes Long John Silver and that nothing is wrong. This is hard for a young man.

Climax: In a stand-off between the gentlemen and the pirates on Treasure Island, Jim is held hostage by Long John Silver. Long John Silver is having trouble with his men, who believe he double-crossed them, and they curse him with the Black Spot. Silver takes Jim and his men to the treasure spot, only to find out it's already gone. In a shootout with the gentlemen, Jim and Silver escape. It turns out a man marooned on the island years earlier, Ben Gunn, found the treasure and moved it to his cave. The gentlemen, Ben, Jim, and Silver load the treasure onto the ship and everyone allows Silver to sail back with them, but they maroon the rest of the pirates on Treasure Island. This resolves the conflict because the treasure has been recovered and Jim and the locals are headed home.

Falling action: Long John Silver sneaks off the ship one night with a bag of the treasure and is never heard from again.

Resolution: Jim and the locals arrive home. Ben Gunn stays on to become an inn-keeper, and Jim swears off of adventures, but he suffers for the rest of his life from nightmares about the sea and about treasure.

Setting: Identify the time and place of the book. If there are several settings, list them. Then answer this question: *Is the setting vital to the plot of the novel? Why or why not? Use specific examples from the text to support your answer.*

1. Admiral Benbow Inn in the 1800s
2. *Hispaniola* at sea
3. Treasure Island

The setting is vital to the plot of the book because if Jim had not left the Admiral Benbow to become an adventurer at sea, he would never have followed Billy Bones's maps to the treasure, which means he would not have been on the *Hispaniola*, nor would he have found himself hostage on Treasure Island. For instance, on the *Hispaniola*, Jim discovers that Israel Hands is about to betray him. He tells the reader, "He wanted me to leave the deck—so much was plain; but with what purpose I could in no way imagine... Israel could move about, he was now armed, and if he had been at so much trouble to get rid of me, it was plain that I was meant to be the victim" (Chapter 26, n.p.). Jim ends up killing Hands to save his own life, but he would never have been in that position had he not been out at sea with untrustworthy pirates.

Point of View: Who is telling the story? How do you know? Use specific examples from the text to support your answer.

Treasure Island is told in first person point-of-view from Jim Hawkins's perspective. Chapter One, *The Old Sea Dog at the "Admiral Benbow"* opens with Jim explaining, "I remember him as if it were yesterday, as he came plodding to the inn door, his sea-chest following behind him in a hand-barrow—a tall, strong, heavy, nut-brown man, his tarry pigtail falling over the shoulder of his soiled blue coat, his hands ragged and scarred, with black, broken nails, and the sabre cut across one cheek, a dirty, livid white. I remember him looking round the cover and whistling to himself..." (n.p.). Because the pronoun used is "I," we know that Jim is speaking directly to the reader, and that we see events unfold from his perspective.

Theme: What is the idea that is central to the story? How do you know? Use specific examples from the text to support your answer. Criminality is a theme that is central to the story. The pirates are criminals but most of them are stereotypical – they spend their money as soon as they get it through stealing or murder, which means they have to steal or murder again to get more money. Long John explains, "They lives rough, and they risk swinging, but they eat and drink like fighting-cocks, and when a cruise is done, why, it's hundreds of pounds instead of hundreds of farthings in their pockets. Now, the most goes for rum and a good fling, and to sea again in their shirts. But that's not the course I lay. I puts it all away, some here, some there, and none too much anywheres, by reason of suspicion" (Chapter 10, n.p.). Long John Silver is the exception. He saves his money and plans to retire.