



# STORY SPECULATIONS



## Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stephenson

Give out one sentence per child. Using the Voice 21 groupings of 'Onion' or 'Traverse', each child reads their sentence to the child opposite them and spends one minute discussing the clues and what the story could be about. They could also just move around the class choosing other children at random. When they move on, they use the new and previous clues to guess the following aspects of the story, piecing together evidence to back up their theories. You may wish to use our 'Book Knowledge Organisers' to go through the book in more detail at the end if you or the children are unfamiliar with the story.

setting

characters

plot

genre



1.) All day he hung round the cove or upon the cliffs with a brass telescope; all evening he sat in a corner of the parlour next the fire and drank rum and water very strong.

2.) The captain made a sort of gasp.

3.) Nor was this all, for the sound of several footsteps running came already to our ears, and as we looked back in their direction, a light tossing to and fro and still rapidly advancing showed that one of the newcomers carried a lantern.

4.) Heard of him, you say! He was the bloodthirstiest buccaneer that sailed.

5.) The doctor opened the seals with great care, and there fell out the map of an island, with latitude and longitude, soundings, names of hills and bays and inlets, and every particular that would be needed to bring a ship to a safe anchorage upon its shores.

6.) You never imagined a sweeter schooner—a child might sail her—two hundred tons; name, HISPANIOLA.

7.) Well, sir, I thought I had only found a cook, but it was a crew I had discovered.



8.) But that was by no means the worst of it, for after a day or two at sea he began to appear on deck with hazy eye, red cheeks, stuttering tongue, and other marks of drunkenness.

9.) And then I heard the voice of Captain Smollett issuing orders.

10.) When you want to go a bit of exploring, you just ask old John, and he'll put up a snack for you to take along.'

11.) The hills ran up clear above the vegetation in spires of naked rock.

12.) The heat was sweltering, and the men grumbled fiercely over their work.

13.) The plunge of our anchor sent up clouds of birds wheeling and crying over the woods, but in less than a minute they were down again and all was once more silent.

14.) There was nothing left for me but death by starvation or death by the hands of the mutineers.

15.) 'Marooned three years ago,' he continued, 'and lived on goats since then, and berries, and oysters.'

16.) The cannon-shot was followed after a considerable interval by a volley of small arms.

17.) At any rate, the boat sank by the stern, quite gently, in three feet of water, leaving the captain and myself, facing each other, on our feet.

18.) 'Who goes? Stand, or we fire.' 'Flag of truce,' cried Silver.

19.) You can't find the treasure. You can't sail the ship—there's not a man among you fit to sail the ship.

20.) On shore, I could see the glow of the great camp-fire burning warmly through the shore-side trees.

21.) There was a great, smooth swell upon the sea.

22.) At the same time, I observed, around both of them, splashes of dark blood upon the planks and began to feel sure that they had killed each other in their drunken wrath.

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24.) I remembered the man who had been shot and had run back among the woods in the great attack, and doubted not that this was he.

25.) 'Take a cutlass, him that dares, and I'll see the colour of his inside, crutch and all, before that pipe's empty.'

26.) 'They was his last words,' moaned Morgan, 'his last words above board.'

27.) The thought of the money, as they drew nearer, swallowed up their previous terrors.

28.) At the same moment, the doctor, Gray, and Ben Gunn joined us, with smoking muskets, from among the nutmeg trees.

29.) A gentle slope ran up from the beach to the entrance of the cave.

30.) That formidable seafaring man with one leg has at last gone clean out of my life.