

Character list

Robinson Crusoe:

The main character of the story, he is a rebellious youth with an inexplicable need to travel. Because of this need, he brings misfortune on himself and is left to fend for himself in a primitive land. The novel essentially chronicles his mental and spiritual development as a result of his isolation. He is a contradictory character; at the same time he is practical ingenuity and immature decisiveness.

Xury:

A friend/servant of Crusoe, he also escapes from moors. A simple youth who is dedicated to Crusoe, he is admirable for his willingness to stand by the narrator. However, he does not think for himself.

Crusoe's Father:

Although he appears only briefly in the beginning, he embodies the theme of the merits of protestant, middle-class living. It is his teachings from which Crusoe is running, with poor success.

Crusoe's Mother:

One of the few female figures, she fully supports her husband and will not let Crusoe go on a voyage.

Portuguese sea captain:

One of the kindest figures in the book, he is an honest man who embodies all the Christian ideals. Everyone is supposed to admire him for his extreme generosity to the narrator. He almost takes the place of Crusoe's father.

Friday:

Another friend/servant of Crusoe, he spends number of years on the island with Crusoe, who saves him from cannibalistic death. Basically he is Crusoe's protégé, a living example of religious justification of the slavery relationship between two men. His eagerness to be redone in the European image is supposed to convey that this image is indeed the right one.

Spaniard:

One of the prisoners saved by Crusoe, it's interesting to note that he is treated with much more respect in Crusoe's mind than any of the colored people with whom Crusoe is in contact.

Captured sea captain:

He is an ideal soldier, the intersection between civilized European and savage white man. Crusoe's support of his fight reveals that the narrator no longer has purely religious motivations.

Savages:

The cannibals from across the way, they represent the threat to Crusoe's religious and moral convictions, as well as his safety. He must conquer them before returning to his own world.

Elements of Novel

- 1- Plot: is the arrangement of events that make up a story or a novel, novel's plot keeps us turning pages, we read to find out what is next. Many fictional plots turn on a conflict between opposing forces.
- 2- Character: is a person presented in a narrative or dramatic work. Hero or heroine often called the protagonists, which is the simple character who engages the readers' interest and empathy, its divided into two parts:
A: *static character*: that does not change.
B: *dynamic character*: undergoes some changes because of the action in the plot.
- 3- Setting: the physical and social context in which the action of a novel occurs. The major elements of setting are the time, place and the social environment that frames the characters.
- 4- The point of view: refers to who tells the story and how it's told. What we know and we feel about the events in a work are shaped by the author's choice of the point of view. There are two categories of point of view:
A: *Third person narrator*: uses he, she and they to tell the story and does not participate in the action.
B: *First person narrator*: uses I and it's a major/minor participant in the action
- 5- Theme: the central meaning of the dominant idea in a literary work. The theme refers to the abstract concept that is made concrete through the images, characterization, and action of the text.
- 6- Irony: a literary device that uses contradictory statements or situations to reveal a reality different from what appears to be true.
- 7- Symbol and symbolism:
Symbol: is an object, animate, which stands for something else e.g.: scales symbolizes justice, a Dove means peace, Lion means strength and courage, Rose for beauty.
Symbolism: is a literary movement by which the writer avoids any direct statement of meaning, instead, he works through emotionally

powerful symbol, which suggest meaning and mood, in symbolism ideas and emotions are invisible.

8- Style and tone: *style* is a writer's manner of using language. *Tone* is the emotional attitude as presented in the novel.

Q1- at the first voyage for R.C towards London, did he succeed to reach London? Why? What happened next?

A- Misfortune begins immediately. The sea is rough, and Robinson regrets his decision to leave home. He sees now how comfortably his father lives. The sea calms, and after a few days, the thoughts are dismissed. The narrator speaks with his companion, marveling at the "storm." His companion laughs and says it was nothing at all. There is drinking that night, and Robinson forgets his fear of drowning. Within a few more days, the wind behaves terribly, and then a true storm begins. Robinson spends much time in his cabin, laying down in fright. He sees nothing but distress, and is convinced he is at death's door. The ship is being flooded, and he is commissioned to help bail water. At one point Robinson faints, but is roused quickly. The water is coming too fast, so they board life boats. People on shore are ready to assist them, if they can reach land. The boats arrive at Yarmouth, and the magistrate gives the men room. They must decide whether or not to continue to London or return Hull. His comrade notes that Robinson should take this as a sign that he is not meant to go sea. They part in an angry state. Robinson travels to London via land. He is ashamed to go home and be laughed at by neighbors. Finally he decided to look for a voyage.

Q2- after Robinson reached London and boarded ship of an English captain towards Guinea what happened to that voyage?

A- He is deaf to all good advice, and boards a vessel bound for Guinea because he befriends the ship's captain. This voyage, save seasickness, goes well, but upon arrival the captain dies. Robinson resolves to take his ship and be a Guinea trader.

On a course towards the Canary Islands, they are attacked by Turkish pirates, who capture them and take them into Salée, a Moorish port. Robinson is now a slave. His new master takes him home for drudgery work. The narrator meditates escape for the next two years. An opportunity presents itself when his master sends Robinson, along with some Moorish youths, to catch some fish. Robinson secretly stores provisions and guns on the ship. They set out to fish. Robinson convinces the helmsman that they will find fish further out. He goes behind one of the moors and tosses him overboard, saying that he should swim for shore because he the narrator is determined to have liberty. Robinson turns to other boy, called Xury, and says he must be faithful or be tossed as well. Xury resolves fidelity and says he will see the world with Robinson.

Q3- after Robinson and Xury reached Brazil with the Portuguese captain what happened to them, explain?

A- The sea captain is extremely kind to Crusoe. He buys Robinson's boat, all of his worldly goods, and Xury. At first the narrator is reluctant to part with his servant, but the captain promises to free him in ten years if he has turned Christian. As Xury finds this agreeable, Robinson allows the exchange. The voyage to Brazil goes well. The narrator is recommended by the captain to the house of an "honest man." This man lives on a plantation, and Robinson lives with him for a while. Seeing how rich the plantation owners are, he resolves to become a planter, and begins purchasing much land. Once

Robinson is planting, he becomes friendly with Wells, his Portuguese neighbor. They slowly increase the diversity of their stock. At this juncture Robinson regrets having sold Xury. He is in a trade that he knows nothing about, and he has no one to talk to but the neighbor. If he had listened to his father, he would have been comfortable at home. Still, he is sustained by his augmenting wealth.

The captain returns and tells Robinson to give him a letter of procreation so that he can bring the narrator half of the fortunes he has left with the English captain's widow. He returns not only with money, but with a servant. Robinson is now infinitely richer than his neighbor, and purchases a "Negro slave" and a "European servant." Each year he grows more tobacco and thrives. But he is not completely happy with this life.

Q4- what happened to Crusoe in his voyage of the 1st on September, 8 years after he ran away from home, what was the purpose of that voyage? Explain.

A- Three merchants come to him and say they want to buy the Negroes privately for their own plantation. They ask if he will join and manage the trading on Guinea. Ignoring the inner voice of his father, Robinson wholeheartedly agrees to go. He makes the investing merchants promise they will look after his plantation if he "miscarries." He boards the ship on the first of September, 8 years after he ran away from home.

Good weather lasts for a while, but then it turns stormy. One man dies of sickness; a little boy is washed overboard. After 12 days it is clear that the ship will not make it due to leakiness. They decide to try and make it to Africa, where they can get assistance. For 5 days they sail, and another storm hits. There is land in the distance, but they are afraid it might be inhabited by savages who will eat them. The ship crashes into sand, and the sea powerfully washes over it. They use their own oars to edge closer to shore, but their hearts are heavy because they know as soon as they get there, the

ship will dashed to pieces and they will be overtaken by the undercurrent and drowned. They have to at least try and swim. Once they jump into the sea, Robinson has some good luck and is helped to shore by a wave. He runs as the sea continues to chase him. The water fights him, but he manages to land safely on shore. Robinson thanks God for his deliverance. He looks around, sees nothing to help him, and runs about like a madman until he falls asleep in a tree.

Q5- How did Robinson save Friday?

A- He fetches his two guns and goes to save "the creature's" life. He manages to shoot the two men pursuing the prisoner. The prisoner then begins to bow to the narrator and rest his head on his foot. He is amazed that his enemies are dead.

Q6- what did R. do to change Friday?

A- He becomes a most devoted manservant. The relationship is very loving. Robinson seeks to make Friday civilized with everything from eating habits to religious teaching. He teaches him how to use guns and roast goats. Crusoe is having a wonderful time.

Q7- what did R. worry about when reached to homeland of Friday?

A- Robinson worries that he might return there and resume his old habits. Thus he is jealous about. But Friday assures him that he only wants to return so that he can teach the others.

Q8- who was in the third Canoe and what was his situation?

A- In the third canoe another man is founded, bound and gagged. Friday is ecstatic – it is his father. The reunion is joyous, and the narrator is very touched. They give the prisoners bread and water. Friday and Robinson make them some beds. Crusoe is very happy that "his island is now peopled," and he is "rich in its subjects." He considers himself the rightful lord.

Q9- Robinson says he will try to save the captain, the first mate and a passenger on two conditions?

A- 1. That they pretend no authority on the island, and that if the battle is won, that they take Friday and himself to England passage-free.
2. it's agreed. They are able to surprise everyone on land, killing some and granting mercy to those who beg for their life.

Q10- how did Robinson address untrustworthy prisoners?

A- He addresses the untrustworthy prisoners, and tells them they can either stay on the island or return to England and be hanged. They choose to stay on the isle. Robinson takes time to show them where all his amenities are. He and Friday leave on the ship with the rest of their little army.

Q11- describes the island in Crusoe's last visit?

A- There he sees that his island is faring well, the Spaniard having arrived at the behest of Friday's father and the first Spaniard who landed on the isle. There are women and young children as well as men. Crusoe looks in on the inhabitants of the island from time. He is always on a voyage.