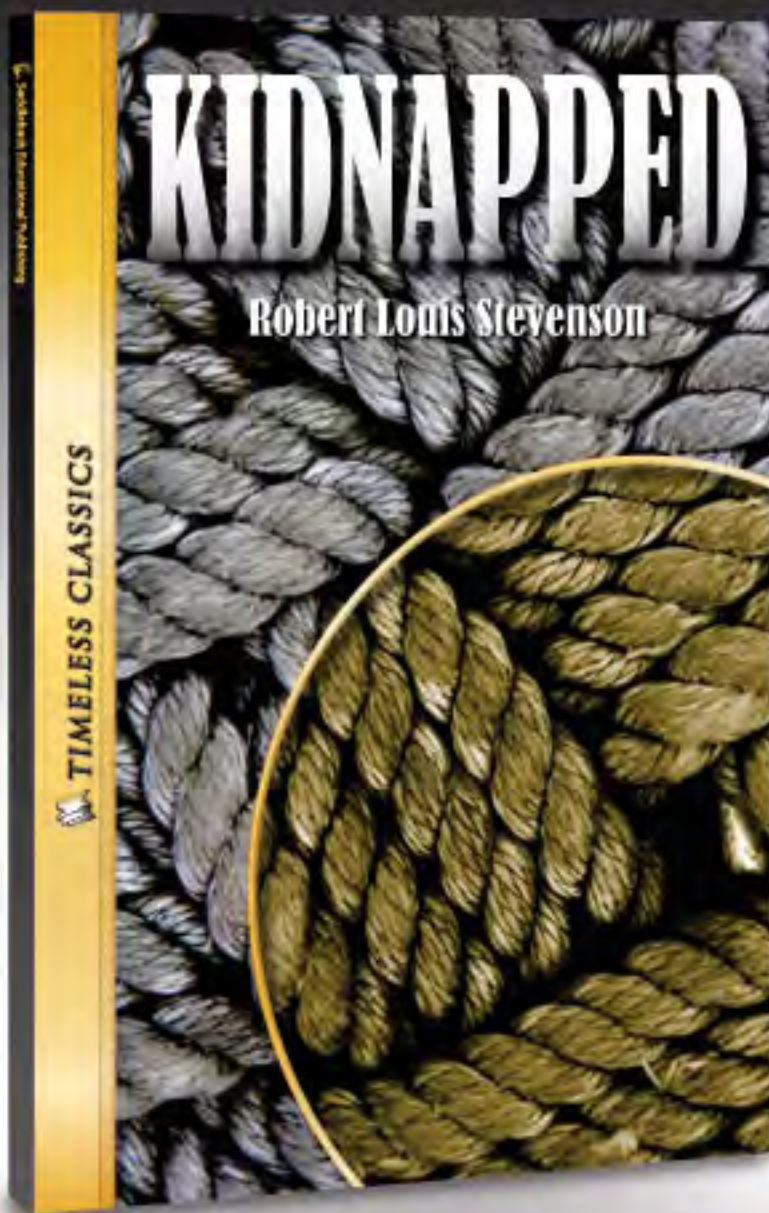


 *TIMELESS CLASSICS*

STUDY GUIDE



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TIMELESS CLASSICS

NOTES TO THE TEACHER

THE NOVELS

Timeless Classics were expressly designed to help struggling readers gain access to some of the world’s greatest literature. While retaining the essence and stylistic “flavor” of the original, each novel has been expertly adapted to a reading level that never exceeds grade 4.0.

An ideal introduction to later investigations of the original works, *Timeless Classics* utilize a number of strategies to ensure the involvement of struggling readers: airy, uncomplicated page design; shortened sentences; easy-reading type style; elimination of archaic words and spellings; shortened total book length; and handsome illustrations.

To further engage struggling readers, some of our *Timeless Classics* titles are available in a new and exciting graphic format, which can bridge literacies and build complex reading skills—a perfect opportunity for differentiation.

THE STUDY GUIDES

The *Timeless Classics Study Guides* provide a wealth of reproducible support materials to help students extend the learning experience. Features include critical background notes on both the author and the times, character descriptions, chapter summaries, and eight “universal” exercises that may be used for any *Timeless Classic* or *Saddleback Illustrated Classic*.

In addition to the universal exercises, 26 title-specific activities are included to review, test, or enrich the student’s grasp of important vocabulary and concepts. These reproducible worksheets are designed to be used chapter-by-chapter as the student’s reading of the novel proceeds. At least two exercises are provided for each book chapter. One of the two always focuses on key vocabulary. The other may be a simple comprehension check or present an important literary concept.

Research shows that the most effective way to improve comprehension is to teach students strategies. The foundation of any comprehension strategy requires knowledge of the skills found in these activities including: main idea, noting details, drawing conclusions, finding the sequence, cause and effect, making inferences, and more. A two-page final exam is also included in every *Timeless Classics Study Guide*.

USING THE STUDY GUIDES

Before assigning any of the reproducible exercises, be sure your students each have a personal copy of the *Glossary* and the *Facts About the Author* and *About the Times*. By organizing the reading process in this way, you will be able to set a purpose for reading and activate prior knowledge. The *Facts About the Author* and *About the Times* lend themselves to any number of writing or research projects you may wish to assign. To further preview the novel, you may wish to review the *Facts About the Characters*. Students will also need to be familiar with many of the literary terms in order to complete the worksheets.

The title-specific exercises may be used as a springboard for class discussions and role-playing. Alternatively, you may wish to assign some exercises as homework and others during the closing minutes of a class period.

All exercises in this Guide are designed to accommodate independent study as well as group work. The occasional assignment of study partners or competitive teams often enhances interest and promotes creativity. Oral language activities, such as paraphrasing or summarizing a part of the story, provide an intervention opportunity to strengthen oral language skills and, in turn, strengthen reading skills.

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

(1850–1894)

Robert Louis Stevenson was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, on November 13, 1850. Like his well-to-do father, he studied civil engineering. But young Stevenson was drawn to the world of literature and the arts. To his family's disappointment, at the age of 20 he told them he wanted to be a writer. Soon he had abandoned the family's strict religion and created a new social life with a free-thinking crowd of artists and writers.

As a sickly child, Stevenson had been educated by private tutors while traveling to climates that were supposed to be good for his health. Even as a young man, he continued to search for a place where his health might improve. At the age of 26, he met an American woman in France. When the two were married in 1880, Stevenson, his wife, and his stepson sailed a schooner to Hawaii. For the next nine years the little family spent time in several American and European health resorts. They also took an 18-month voyage to the South Seas, visiting such exotic places as Tahiti, Australia, and Samoa.

Stevenson inherited a fortune when his father died in 1887. With his financial future guaranteed, he bought an estate on the Samoan island of

Upolu. Happily, the climate there seemed to suit both his health and his romantic, adventurous spirit. Among the Samoans he became known as *Tusitala*, the teller of tales.

Stevenson's first successful book, *Treasure Island*, was begun in Scotland in 1881 and published there in 1883. The idea for the story had come from a map of two imaginary islands Stevenson had drawn for his stepson. Although most of his writing had to be done as he rested in bed, he tried to write a chapter a day.

Stevenson's much beloved book of poems, *A Child's Garden of Verses*, was published in 1885. The next year he published *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* as well as the historical novel, *Kidnapped*. Both books remain popular even today.

Stevenson did not leave Samoa during the last years of his life. In 1894, he died there while working on another book.

Scholars today applaud Stevenson for his power of invention, his command of horror and the supernatural, and the psychological depth he brought to romance fiction.

KIDNAPPED

FACTS ABOUT THE TIMES

In 1850, when Robert Louis Stevenson was born...

Millard Fillmore was inaugurated as the 13th U.S. president . . . California became a state . . . the American author Nathaniel Hawthorne published *The Scarlet Letter*, and the English poet Elizabeth Barrett Browning published *Sonnets from the Portuguese* . . . William Wordsworth died and was succeeded as England's Poet Laureate by Alfred, Lord Tennyson.

In 1886, when *Kidnapped* was published...

American baseball great Ty Cobb was born . . . steam was first used to sterilize

surgical instruments . . . the Pasteur Institute was founded in Paris . . . Karl Marx published the first volume of *Das Kapital* . . . Grover Cleveland was president of the United States.

In 1894, when Robert Louis Stevenson died...

Baron de Coubertin began to organize the modern Olympic Games . . . the English author Rudyard Kipling published *The Jungle Book* . . . Henry Ford's first car had been on the road for one year . . . Hawaii was proclaimed a republic, and pineapple was canned for the first time.

KIDNAPPED

FACTS ABOUT THE CHARACTERS

DAVID BALFOUR a newly orphaned 17-year-old from a small town in Scotland, he finds a relative he didn't know he had who pays to have him kidnapped and transported to America to work as a slave on a plantation

EBENEZER BALFOUR David's uncle, the ruthless and scheming master of the house of Shaws

MR. CAMPBELL a minister in David's hometown who starts David off on his journey to the house of Shaws

CAPTAIN HOSEASON the greedy captain of the *Covenant*, the trading ship on which David is taken captive

RANSOME the pitiful cabin boy on the *Covenant* whose death results from a cruel beating

MR. RANKEILLOR a lawyer who helps David in his quest for his inheritance

MR. RIACH the *Covenant* crewmember who shows David some kindness

MR. SHUAN the brutal navigator on the *Covenant* who causes young Ransome's death

ALAN BRECK STEWART a bold and daring Scottish patriot who works as a messenger for his exiled chief, he befriends David and enlists his aid against their common enemies

THE RED FOX a secret agent of the English king who oppresses the Scottish people

NEIL ROY MACROB, JAMES OF THE GLENS, JOHN BRECK MACCOLL, CLUNY MACPHERSON, ROBIN OIG friends and allies of Alan Breck Stewart

CHAPTER SUMMARIES**CHAPTER 1**

David Balfour, orphaned at age 17, leaves his small hometown in Scotland to make his way in the world. As David heads down the road, the town's minister gives him a sealed envelope to be delivered to Ebenezer Balfour at the house of Shaws, an estate near Edinburgh. Informed that the letter inside concerns his "inheritance," the poor young man has some hope in his heart as he approaches the city. He's disappointed when he arrives at the "great dark ruin" that is the house of Shaws. Hungry and tired, David is even more disappointed when he meets Ebenezer, an unwelcoming, grizzled man who greets him with a gun! Ebenezer identifies himself as David's uncle, and offers the boy porridge and a cold bed. Now David is not at all sure that he's interested in such a cold and unpromising "inheritance."

CHAPTER 2

Still behaving strangely, Ebenezer sends David on an errand to an upper floor of the unfinished house. Lashed by rain and attacked by bats on the dangerous, open-air staircase, David slips on an uneven step and nearly plunges to his death. Suspecting that his uncle meant to kill him, David demands an explanation. Before that conversation can take place, however, a boy comes to bring Ebenezer a letter from Mr. Hoseason, the captain of a trading ship. Soon David, Ebenezer, and the boy

named Ransome go to Queensferry, where Ebenezer supposedly "has business" with Hoseason, and David will meet with Mr. Rankeillor, the family's lawyer, to "talk about his future." As they walk, the boy, Ransome, tells David that he's the cabin boy on Hoseason's ship. He shows David wounds inflicted by his cruel boss, Mr. Shuan. Instead of meeting with the lawyer, David is taken on a tour of Hoseason's ship. When Ebenezer slips away in a small boat, David realizes he's been kidnapped—just as someone knocks him to the floor.

CHAPTER 3

Recovering from his head wound, David discovers that the ship, the *Covenant*, is bound for the United States, where he will be sold as a slave to work on a plantation. He meets a crewman named Riach, who cares for him, and another, Mr. Shuan, the cruel, drunken man who accidentally kills poor Ransome while giving him a beating. David takes over Ransome's work in the roundhouse, the big room in which food, drink, and weapons are stored. There, the captain tells Riach that "no one at home must ever know what actually happened to Ransome." One night, in a thick fog, the *Covenant* crashes into and sinks a small boat. The lone survivor tells the captain that he's carrying gold to his Scottish chief, who's in exile in France as he leads Scottish resistance to the rule of King George of England.

TIMELESS CLASSICS

LITERARY GLOSSARY

action what happens in a story; the acts or events that take place

The war story was full of battle action.

author the writer of a book, story, article, etc.

Ernest Hemingway was an American author.

author's purpose the author's specific goal or reason for writing a certain book

In that novel, the author's purpose was to make readers laugh.

character a fictional person who plays a part in a story or novel

Long John Silver is an important character in *Treasure Island*.

classic excellent artwork, novel, painting, symphony, etc. that remains popular over many years

Norman Mailer's *The Naked and the Dead* has become an American classic

climax the outcome of the novel's main conflict

The capture of the criminal was the climax of the detective story.

conclusion the resolution of all plot conflicts, bringing the story to a close

That play's conclusion was very satisfying. Every conflict was resolved.

conflict The struggle between characters or forces at the center of the story

The conflict was resolved when the suspect confessed.

description the parts of a story or novel that tell about the appearance of the setting or characters

His description of the Alps was breathtaking.

dialogue words spoken by the characters in a novel, story, or play

The dialogue in that comedy is very witty and amusing.

effect in literature, an impression created by the writer

Murder mysteries often create a suspenseful, chilling effect.

event a specific occurrence; something that happens

A plane crash is the first event in that adventure novel.

fiction a literary work in which the plot and characters are the products of the author's imagination

Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* is a popular work of fiction.

figurative language colorful wording not meant to be taken literally, but to form a colorful, sharp picture in the mind

A "screaming" headline may be set in large type, but it makes no sound at all.

imagery figures of speech that help the reader to visualize the characters or setting; pictures in words

In Stephen Crane's imagery, the color of blood suggests courage.

introduction a short reading that presents and explains a novel; sometimes the first part of a novel that sets the scene

The introduction to *Frankenstein* is in the form of a letter.

mood the overall feeling or atmosphere the author creates in a story or novel

The author's skillful use of language created a dismal, hopeless mood.

moral the instructive point of a story or novel; the lesson to be drawn by the reader

The moral of the story is to choose your friends carefully.

NAME _____ DATE _____

Circle the word or words that correctly complete each sentence.

1. The events in this story take place in (England / Scotland) about
(250 / 300) years ago.
2. David travels to (Edinburgh / Glasgow) to deliver a (package / letter).
3. On the first part of his journey, David is accompanied by
(Mr. Essendean / Mr. Campbell).
4. A (minister / barber) warns David that Ebenezer (Balfour / Shaws) is
“no sort of man.”
5. David finally reaches the house of (Balfour / Shaws) at
(midnight / sundown).
6. A (woman / boy) tells David that his relative’s house was built by
(thievery / blood).
7. David sees that some rooms and a (hallway / stairway) in the
(unfinished / unoccupied) house are open to the sky.
8. Ebenezer guesses that (Alexander / Mr. Campbell) must be (sick / dead).
9. (David / Ebenezer) had not known that his father had a (title / brother).
10. David is (frightened / insulted) when his (stepfather / uncle) threatens
to lock him out.

NAME _____

DATE _____

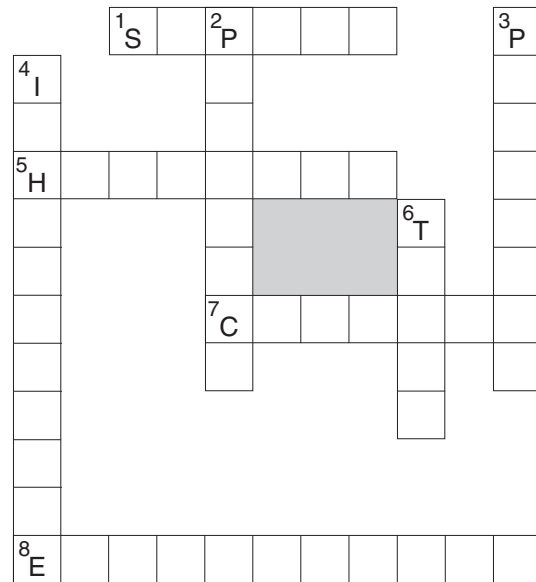
- A.** Solve the crossword puzzle with words from Chapter 1.
 Clues are definitions of the answer words.

ACROSS

1. slowly weakened or worn down
5. cloth made of yarn spun at home
7. tricky; crafty; sly
8. stitched in a design with a needle and colored thread

DOWN

2. the likely chance of getting something
3. soft food made by boiling oatmeal or another cereal
4. something an heir receives when someone dies
6. one who steals; a robber



- B.** Use words from the puzzle to complete the sentences.

1. As a novice, Ken had little _____ of winning the tennis tournament.
2. After they completed the long, steep climb, the girls' energy was _____.
3. Grandma _____ the baby's name on his pillowcase.
4. Caroline likes to sprinkle raisins on her breakfast _____.
5. Colonial women used _____ fabric to make their clothes.
6. The _____ entered the house through an open window.
7. Roger's _____ included a valuable stamp collection.
8. The lawyer was very _____ in his defense of his client.

NAME _____

DATE _____

A. Find and circle the words hidden in the puzzle. Words may go up, down, across, backward, or diagonally. Check off each word as you find it.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| ___ CONFESS | ___ OBEY |
| ___ SUNDOWN | ___ STERN |
| ___ ASHAMED | ___ INSULT |
| ___ MINISTER | ___ PALACE |
| ___ RELATIVES | ___ BITTER |
| ___ COMFORTING | ___ ACCEPT |



B. Now use the puzzle words to complete each pair of *synonyms* (words with the same or similar meanings) or *antonyms* (words with opposite meanings).

SYNONYMS

ANTONYMS

1. kinfolk / _____
2. castle / _____
3. admit / _____
4. clergyman / _____
5. comply / _____
6. severe / _____

7. compliment / _____
8. dawn / _____
9. reject / _____
10. sweet / _____
11. upsetting / _____
12. proud / _____