

# Week 25

## Robinson Crusoe Finds a Companion

Daniel Defoe

### Lesson 1

Write the definitions from the glossary for the following vocabulary terms.

1. stoic \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. contriving \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. inclination \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. equipage \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. buskins \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. spatterdashes \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. frog \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. mulatto-like \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. apparition \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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- 10. subtlety \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 11. infinitely \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 12. judicial \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 13. omnipotent \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 14. servitude \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 15. unfeigned \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Read the story for good understanding.**

How would you like to live on a desert island in the ocean with only a dog, two cats, and a parrot for company? That is the strange experience of Robinson Crusoe, a shipwrecked sailor, who lived alone on an island in the West Indies for twenty-eight years. The story is based on the real experience of Alexander Selkirk, a British mariner who had been shipwrecked on an island off the coast of Chile. The real adventurer, Selkirk, has long since been forgotten, but the story-book character, Robinson Crusoe, has become known throughout the world. Thousands of boys and girls have shared in his exciting experiences as they read *The Adventures of Robinson Crusoe*, written more than two hundred years ago.

Here you will meet this famous character of fiction after he had been alone on his island for twenty-four years. The incidents of this story, abridged for young readers, make up some of the most dramatic events of Robinson Crusoe’s strange and surprising life.

It would have made a **stoic** smile to have seen me and my little family sit down to dinner. There was my majesty, the prince and lord of the whole island; I had the lives of all my subjects at my absolute command. I could hang, draw, give liberty, and take it away, and no rebels among all my subjects!

Then to see how like a king I dined too, all alone, attended by my servants! Poll, my

parrot, was the only person permitted to talk to me. My dog, who was now grown very old and crazy, sat always at my right hand, and two cats, one on one side the table and one on the other, expecting now and then a bit from my hand, as a mark of special favor. In this plentiful manner I lived; neither could I be said to want anything but society, and of that

in some time after this, I was like to have too much.

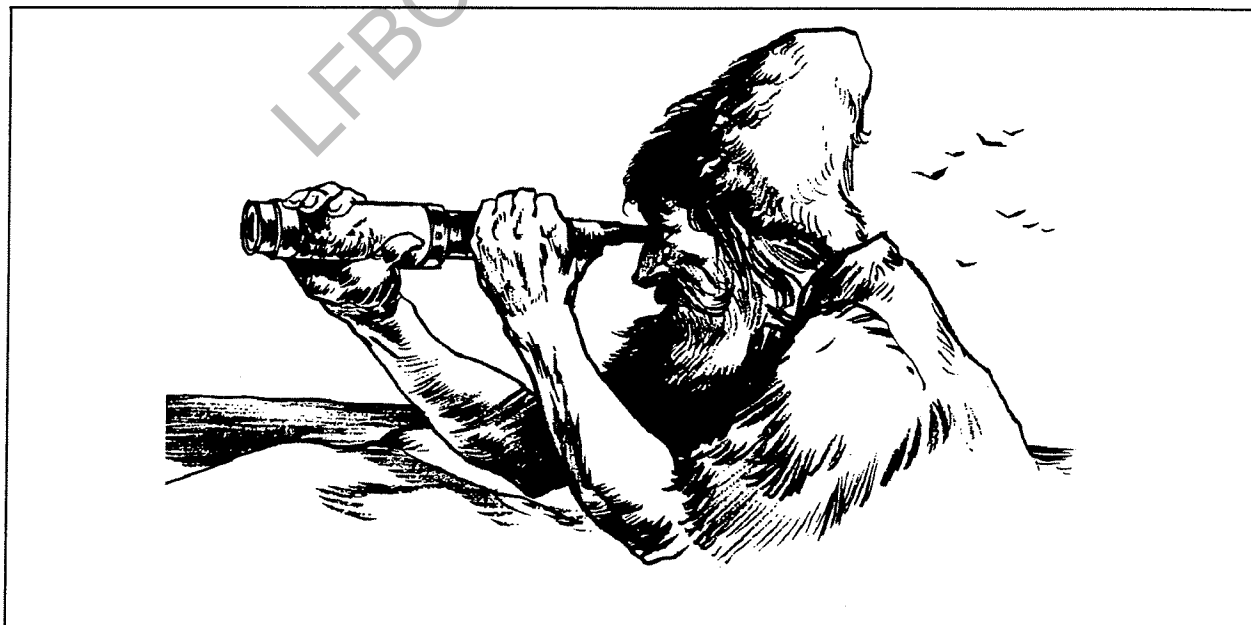
I was, however, somewhat impatient to have the use of my boat; and therefore sometimes I sat **contriving** ways to get her about the island, and at other times I sat myself down contented enough without her. But I had a strange uneasiness in my mind to go down to the point of the island where my boat lay. This **inclination** increased upon me every day, and at length I resolved to travel thither by land, and following the edge of the shore, I did so. But had anyone in England met such a man as I was, it must either have frightened them, or raised a great deal of laughter; and as I frequently stood still to look at myself, I could not but smile at the notion of my traveling through Yorkshire with such an **equipage** and in such a dress. Be pleased to take a sketch of my figure as follows:

I had a great high shapeless cap, made of goatskin, with a flap hanging down behind, as well to keep the sun from me as to shoot the rain off from running into my neck; nothing being so hurtful in these climates as the rain upon the flesh under the clothes.

I had a short jacket of goatskin, the skirts coming down to about the middle of my

thighs, and a pair of open-kneed breeches of the same. The breeches were made of the skin of an old he-goat, whose hair hung down such a length on either side that, like pantaloons, it reached to the middle of my legs. Stockings and shoes I had none, but had made me a pair of somethings, I scarce know what to call them, like **buskins** to flap over my legs, and lace on either side like **spatterdashes**; but of a most barbarous shape, as indeed were all the rest of my clothes.

I had on a broad belt of goatskin dried, which I drew together with two thongs of the same, instead of buckles, and in a kind of a **frog** on either side of this, instead of a sword and a dagger, hung a little saw and a hatchet, one on one side, one on the other. I had another belt not so broad, and fastened in the same manner, which hung over my shoulder; and at the end of it, under the left arm, hung two pouches, both made of goat's skin too, in one of which hung my powder, in the other my shot. At my back I carried my basket, on my shoulder my gun, and over my head a great clumsy ugly goatskin umbrella, but which, after all, was the most necessary thing I had about me, next to my gun.



As for my face, the color of it was really not so **mulatto-like** as one might expect from a man not at all careful of it and living within nine or ten degrees of the equator. My beard I had once suffered to grow till it was about a quarter of a yard long; but as I had both scissors and razors sufficient, I had cut it pretty short, except what grew on my upper lip, which I had trimmed into a large pair of whiskers, such as I had seen worn by some Turks. Of these mustachios or whiskers, I will not say they were long enough to hang my hat upon them; but they were of a length and shape monstrous enough, and such as in England would have passed for frightful.

But all this is by the bye; for as to my figure, I had so few to observe me, that it was of no manner of consequence; so I say no more of that. In this kind of figure I went my new journey and was out five or six days.

You are to understand that now I had, as I may call it, two plantations in the island; one my little fortification or tent, with the wall about it under the rock, with the cave behind me, which by this time I had enlarged into several apartments or caves, one within another. One of these, which was the driest and largest, and had a door out beyond my wall or fortification, was all filled up with my large earthen pots, and with fourteen or fifteen great baskets, which would hold five or six bushels each, where I laid up my stores of provision, especially my corn. As for my wall, made with long stakes or piles, those piles grew all like trees and were by this time grown so big, and spread so very much, that there was not the least appearance to any one's view of any habitation behind them.

Near this dwelling of mine, but a little farther within the land, lay my two pieces of corn-ground, which I kept duly cultivated and sowed, and which duly yielded me their harvest in its season; and whenever I had occa-

sion for more corn, I had more land adjoining as fit as that.

Besides this, I had my country seat, and I had now a tolerable plantation there also. For first, I had my little bower as I called it, which I kept in repair; that is to say, I kept the hedge, which circled it in, constantly fitted up to its usual height, the ladder standing always in the inside; I kept the trees, which at first were no more than my stakes but were now grown very firm and tall; I kept them always so cut that they might spread and grow thick and wild, and make the more agreeable shade. In the middle of this I had my tent always standing, being a piece of a sail spread over poles set up for that purpose, and which never wanted any repair or renewing. And under this I had made me a couch with the skins of the creatures I had killed, and with other soft things, and a blanket laid on them such as belonged to our sea-bedding, which I had saved, and a great watch coat to cover me. And here, whenever I had occasion to be absent from my chief seat, I took up my country habitation.

Adjoining to this I had my enclosures for my cattle, that is to say, my goats. I had taken infinite pains to fence and enclose this ground, lest the goats should break through, and had never left off till I had stuck the outside of the hedge so full of small stakes, and so near to one another, that there was scarce room to put a hand through between them, which afterwards, when those stakes grew, made the enclosure strong like a wall, indeed stronger than any wall.

This will testify for me that I was not idle, and that I spared no pains to bring to pass whatever appeared necessary for my comfortable support. For I considered the keeping up a breed of tame creatures, thus at my hand, would be a living storehouse of flesh, milk, butter, and cheese for me as long as I lived in the place, if it were to be forty years; and that keeping them in my reach depended entirely