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| English Reading Assessment |

*Treasure Island*Mark scheme

Skills overview

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| **Question** | **Reading skill / focus** | **Marks  available** | **Mark allocation** |
| **1** | Finding information | 3 |  |
| **2** | Inference / finding information | 1 |  |
| **3** | Word meaning | 1 |  |
| **4** | Inference | 2 |  |
| **5** | Inference / finding information | 2 |  |
| **6** | Identifying methods | 2 |  |
| **7** | Inference / finding information | 2 |  |
| **8** | Inference | 2 |  |
| **9** | Word meaning | 2 |  |
| **10** | Inference / finding information | 3 |  |
| **11** | Inference / finding information | 2 |  |
| **12** | Effect / finding information | 2 |  |
| **13** | Identifying methods | 1 |  |
| **14** | Identifying methods | 1 |  |
| **15** | Identifying methods | 1 |  |
| **16** | Identifying methods | 1 |  |
| **17** | Supporting an interpretation / opinion | 5 |  |
|  | **TOTAL** | **33** |  |

**[1]** Find three quotations that show us something about Billy Bone’s appearance. [Paragraph 1]

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| **Accept** | **Don’t accept** |
| * ‘tall’ * ‘strong’ * ‘heavy’ * ‘nut-brown man’ * ‘tarry pigtail falling over the shoulder’ * ‘soiled blue coat’ * ‘hands ragged and scarred’ * ‘black, broken nails’ * ‘sabre cut across one cheek’ | Anything that does not relate to his physical appearance:   * ‘he came plodding’ * ‘his sea-chest following behind him in a hand-barrow’ * ‘looking about him’ * ‘whistling to himself’ * ‘breaking out in that old sea-song’ |
| 1 mark for each correct answer – maximum of 3 marks | |

**[2]**  Find a clue that suggests that the man is a pirate.

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| **Accept** | **Don’t accept** |
| * ‘sabre cut across one cheek’ * ‘his sea-chest following behind him in a hand-barrow’ * ‘breaking out in that old sea-song’ * ‘called roughly for a glass of rum’ | * ‘he had none of the appearance of a man who sailed before the mast’ * ‘seemed like a mate or skipper’ |
| 1 mark for a correct answer | |

**[3]** What does the word ‘lingering’ mean in the following sentence?

This, when it was brought to him, he drank slowly, like a connoisseur, **lingering** on the taste and still looking about him at the cliffs and up at our signboard.

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| **Accept** | **Don’t accept** |
| * waiting * enjoying * savouring * taking his time * contemplating * relishing |  |
| 1 mark for a correct answer | |

**[4]** What can we infer from the phrase highlighted in Billy Bone’s speech?

I’m **a plain man**; rum and bacon and eggs is what I want, and that head up there for to watch ships off.

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| **Accept** | **Don’t accept** |
| * He doesn’t want much. * He doesn’t like fancy things. * He has low expectations. * He lives simply. * He only wants the basics. * He just wants the essentials to live. | Don’t reward anything which is a literal meaning of the phrase. Cannot be a rewording of the line. |
| 2 marks for a correct answer | |

**[5]**  What clue does the writer give that Billy Bones is a good man, even though he is occasionally rude to people?

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| **Accept** | **Don’t accept** |
| * He pays his bill upfront. * He asks to be told when he has spent all his money. * He pays Jim money to keep a lookout for him. |  |
| 2 marks for a correct answer | |

**[6]**  How does the writer create a sense that Billy Bones is a scared man?

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| **Accept** | **Don’t accept** |
| * He likes the fact the pub is located in a cove. * He likes the fact that the pub is quiet and not busy. * He likes the fact that he can look out and see what is coming. * ‘He was a very silent man by custom.’ * ‘All day he hung round the cove or upon the cliffs with a brass telescope’ * ‘Every day when he came back from his stroll he would ask if any seafaring men had gone by along the road’ * ‘he was desirous to avoid them’ * ‘When a seaman did put up … he would look in at him through the curtained door before he entered’ * simile ‘to be as silent as a mouse’ * ‘I was, in a way, a sharer in his alarms’ * ‘promised me a silver fourpenny on the first of every month if I would only keep my “weather-eye open for a seafaring man with one leg”’ |  |
| 2 marks for a correct answer  To support their answer, students can either give a line from the text or make a reference to a method or technique used. The marks relate to the quality of the supporting evidence rather than the number of points made. | |

**[7]** Find three phrases from the first paragraph which show that Jim is scared or worried about the man with one leg.

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| **Accept** | **Don’t accept** |
| * ‘that personage haunted my dreams’ * ‘I would see him in a thousand forms’ * ‘with a thousand diabolical expressions’ * ‘he was a monstrous kind of a creature’ * ‘had but the one leg, and that in the middle of his body’ * ‘leap and run and pursue me’ * ‘the worst of nightmares’ * ‘abominable fancies’ |  |
| 2 marks for a correct answer | |

**[8]** Why do you think Billy Bones would not let people leave the inn? Offer two possible reasons for this.

Nor would he allow anyone to leave the inn till he had drunk himself sleepy and reeled off to bed.

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| **Accept** | **Don’t accept** |
| * He is scared of being alone. * He feels safe around other people. * He enjoys having people around him. * He is a pirate and pirates live close to one another on a ship. * He fears he will be attacked if he is on his own. |  |
| 1 mark for each correct answer – maximum 2 | |

**[9]** What does the word ‘cease’ mean in the following line?

My father was always saying the inn would be ruined, for people would soon **cease** coming there to be tyrannized over and put down, and sent shivering to their beds.

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| **Accept** | **Don’t accept** |
| * stop * halt * end | * reduce |
| 2 marks for a correct answer | |

**[10]** Find three phrases that show how Billy Bones was liked by other people and not just Jim.

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| **Accept** | **Don’t accept** |
| * ‘but on looking back they rather liked it’ * ‘it was a fine excitement in a quiet country life’ * ‘there was even a party of the younger men who pretended to admire him’ |  |
| 1 mark for each correct answer – maximum 3 | |

**[11]** Who do you think has an ‘unhappy death’? [Paragraph 4]

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| **Accept** | **Don’t accept** |
| * Jim’s father | * Billy Bones |
| 2 marks for a correct answer | |

**[12]** What two clues, in this section, does the writer give us that something bad is going to happen next in the story?

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| **Accept** | **Don’t accept** |
| * ‘haunted my dreams’ and the dream itself * stormy weather * The man has one leg – suggests violence. * The stories Billy Bones tells relate to death and danger. * ‘he must have lived his life among some of the wickedest men that God ever allowed upon the sea’ * People feeling ‘the fear of death’ * the unhappy death of Jim’s father |  |
| 2 marks for a correct answer | |

**[13]–[16]** Looking at both extracts, find an example of each of the following techniques used by the writer.

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| 13 – simile | 14 – weather imagery | 15 – colours | 16 – sound effects |
| * ‘he drank slowly, like a connoisseur’ * ‘looking as fierce as a commander’ * ‘blow through his nose like a fog-horn’ * ‘as silent as a mouse’ | * ‘stormy nights’ * ‘wind shook the four corners of the house’ * ‘storms at sea’ | * ‘blue coat’ * ‘nut-brown man’ * ‘black, broken nails’ * ‘a dirty, livid white’ | * ‘whistling to himself’ * ‘rapped on the door’ * ‘blow through his nose like a fog-horn’ * ‘as silent as a mouse’ * ‘he would only blow through his nose’ * ‘sing his wicked, old, wild sea-songs’ * ‘blew through his nose so loudly that you might say he roared’ |
| Accept suitable alternatives to the answers here. | | | |
| 1 mark for each correct answer – maximum of 4 marks | | | |

**[17]** Use the following as a guide to the marks. Students will be rewarded a mark for attempting the task.

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| **Mark** | **Analysis** |
| **5 marks** | a perceptive and detailed response – only a handful of students would be at this level |
| **4 marks** | a response where the student is rationalising choices |
| **3 marks** | a response where the student is linking choices to the impact on the reader |
| **2 marks** | a response with a reference to a technique or choice but no development or explanation |
| **1 mark** | simple response and no direct example of a technique |

Suggested examples.

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| **Marks** | **Features** | **Example** |
| **5** | Perceptive and detailed | I agree that the writer builds up mystery around the character and we see this with the locked sea-chest. The chest, for me, is a symbol of the Billy Bones’ character: locked. The extract begins and ends with it to highlight how complex Billy Bones is as a character. He is tough and hard on the outside, yet we don’t know what he thinks or feels inside, because he keeps that locked up. Stevenson spends time making the character seem tough, like wood, through his description and behaviour. I think that the writer is purposefully keeping the character of Billy Bones secretive and mysterious so that we understand that it is all an act and deep down he is worried and scared. However, as he is a pirate, he has to keep his true feelings hidden and locked away. |
| **4** | Rationalised response | I agree that the writer builds up mystery around the character. The writer creates this mystery through a combination of things in the story. Firstly, the character looks like a pirate and has a ‘livid scar’ on his face, which presents that character as someone dangerous, yet his behaviour and the way he hides suggests that he is scared and worried. The mystery surrounds the source of making this man, who seems tough and scary, so scared. Secondly, the constant reference to the man with ‘one leg’ adds to the mystery. Is it this man that Billy Bones fears? Why is he so scary? |
| **3** | Linked choices to impact on the reader | I agree that he is such a mystery because, from the start, the reader senses that Billy Bones is hiding something. The fact that he has a scar on his face hints to us that he’s up to no good. This creates a sense of mystery for the reader because they know there’s something wrong with this man, but they don’t know what it is. |
| **2** | Supported by a technique / choice | I agree the writer has made the character mysterious because of his repeated references to ‘a sea-faring man with one leg’. This creates mystery because we want to know who the man is. |
| **1** | Simple response | I agree that the character is mysterious as there’s lots of mysterious things surrounding him in the story. |