

Level 6-7
Two Years' Vacation

Workbook

Teacher's Guide and Answer Key

Teacher's Guide

A. Summary

1. Book Summary

Twelve boys were going to sail around New Zealand on a special summer trip. But their ship floated away from the harbor at night without any adults on board. It was carried by a storm to an island. The boys only had supplies for a short time, so they had to hunt and fish for food. They found that many years ago a Frenchman had been on the island and died there.

Months later, they met a woman and a man, Kate and Evans, who had escaped from two criminals after their boat turned over at the island. The group tried to capture the criminals, but the men escaped and then fell into some old animal pits and were killed. Evans and the boys repaired the boat that Evans and Kate had come in, and they all set sail for South America. The boys had been on the island for two years. They soon met a ship that took them to New Zealand.

2. Chapter Summary

► Chapter 1

Twelve boys from Charman's School in Auckland were going on a special summer trip around New Zealand, but their boat floated away from the harbor while they were sleeping, without any adults on it. Gordon was the first to realize the ship was moving, and he told the others. The sails were too heavy for the boys to put up, so they couldn't control the ship. They went through a storm for almost two weeks before landing on a sandy beach.

► Chapter 2

The boys had enough food for six weeks, but they thought they would probably be there much longer. All the boys pitched in to fish and hunt for food. The oldest boy, Briant, climbed up a cliff to see where they were and discovered that the place was an island. He, Donagan, and Gordon went exploring and found a river.

► Chapter 3

The three boys discovered a house made of sticks, along with a piece of pottery. They now knew that someone had been on the island. They kept following the river until it reached the sea, which turned out to be a lake. By the lake, they saw an old broken boat and the marks "FB 1827" cut into a tree. Their dog found some bones, which they thought might be human.

Then they found a cave that had been the home of a Frenchman named Francoi Boudain. He had become shipwrecked on the island fifty-five years before. The boys named the cave French Cave.

► Chapter 4

The boys knew that they might be on the island for a long time. They also knew that they could not spend the cold winter on the damaged ship. So they made a raft from the wood on the ship to carry their food and supplies to the cave. They used things from the ship to make the cave into a nice home. Later, Donagan found some pits that had been used to catch animals.

► Chapter 5

After ten months on the island, Briant decided that the younger boys needed schooling, so Gordon put together a schedule of classes for them. Briant and Moko went to explore more of the island. Through his telescope, Briant saw a light that he thought might be a volcano. He was excited, because that meant land might be nearby. He also spotted a boat lying on its side on the shore. Someone else might be on the island.

► Chapter 6

As Briant and Moko headed back to French Cave, they found a woman. Her name was Kate, and she had been on the boat that Briant saw. She told them she had been on her way to Chile when criminals took over her ship. When the ship sank in a fire, the criminals took her and a crewman named Evans into a long boat. The boat was carried by a storm to the island. It had turned over, and she didn't know if anyone else had survived. The boys knew they might be in danger. There might be criminals on the island.

► Chapter 7

Three days later, Evans appeared, and he said the criminals were close behind him. The boys couldn't fight with their single small gun against the criminals' two big ones. Evans suggested that Briant get the men to chase him and then they would throw a net over the men. The plan didn't work well, and one of the men was just about to shoot the boys when Donagan shot him in the hand. The two criminals ran away, and the boys chased them. The men were killed when they fell into the animal pits.

► Chapter 8

Evans and the boys repaired the long boat that had been on the beach. They all got in it and set sail for South America. The boys said goodbye to the island that had been their home for

two years. After one day at sea, they met a ship going to Australia, and it took them to New Zealand. In a few weeks, the boys were back home. Everyone was amazed at how brave and intelligent they were.

B. Background and Themes

★ **Adventure:** This is the kind of exciting thing that many young boys (and maybe some girls) have dreams about.

★ **Danger:** The lives of the young boys on the island were exciting, but the excitement became greater when criminals were brought into the picture.

★ **Responsibility:** All the boys helped out as best they could in the difficult circumstances.

★ **Bravery:** Briant agreed to present himself to the killers as bait for a trap.

Answer Key

Part A Story Focus

Before You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Introduction

1. It first appeared in a magazine.
2. Jules Verne wrote it.
3. The writer wanted to write a story like *Robinson Crusoe* for children.

► Characters

1. Briant: brave, calm
2. Donagan: skillful, adventurous
3. Gordon: smart, sensible
4. Moko: cute, helpful
5. Kate: mature, gentle
6. Evans: strong, handsome

While You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Chapter 1

A. Preview Questions

1. He is on a ship.
2. I think he sees something dangerous.
3. I think he will call the captain.

B. Review Questions

1. It began in Auckland, New Zealand.
2. They were going on a six-week sailing trip.
3. The ship floated away from the harbor.

► Chapter 2

A. Preview Questions

1. He is on a beach.
2. He got there on the wrecked ship.
3. He will use it for food.

B. Review Questions

1. Donagan was a good hunter.
2. Briant was the oldest.
3. They were on an island.

► Chapter 3

A. Preview Questions

1. They are by a lake.
2. I think "FB" is someone's initials and 1827 is when the tree was marked.
3. I think it came from whoever marked the tree.

B. Review Questions

1. They discovered a small house made of sticks and a piece of pottery.
2. They found a boat and some words on a tree.
3. Francoi Boudain was the first person on the island.

► **Chapter 4**

A. Preview Questions

1. They found a cave.
2. I think Francoi Boudain lived there.
3. I think they will live in the cave.

B. Review Questions

1. They moved into the cave because winter was coming.
2. They used a raft that they built and went by river.
3. He found some pits that had been used to catch animals.

► **Chapter 5**

A. Preview Questions

1. He is looking for something.
2. It is a telescope.
3. I think he will build a fire and make a signal.

B. Review Questions

1. He thought it was important for them to have school.
2. He saw a large boat on its side.
3. The boat was gone.

► **Chapter 6**

A. Preview Questions

1. I think she came from the boat that Briant saw on the shore.
2. They are offering the woman food and drink.
3. I think they will take her to the cave.

B. Review Questions

1. They found a woman.
2. She could speak Spanish, and this was useful to them.
3. She came in the boat that Briant saw.

► **Chapter 7**

A. Preview Questions

1. He has been fishing.
2. They are the criminals.

3. They want to catch the boy.

B. Review Questions

1. They saw Evans.
2. Donagan shot him in the hand.
3. They fell into the animal pits and died.

► Chapter 8

A. Preview Questions

1. I think it was the boat the criminals had used.
2. They are at sea.
3. I think they will ask to go with the ship.

B. Review Questions

1. He told Evans about the boat he had seen on the beach before the storm.
2. They met a ship sailing for Australia.
3. He took them all to New Zealand.

Mini Quiz

- a. The fruit does not fall far from the tree.
→ Children often take after their parents.
- b. The best-laid plans of mice and men often go astray.
→ No matter how well you plan for an event, it might not work out the way you planned.
- c. A leopard can't change its spots.
→ People can't change what they are naturally.

After You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Pattern Practice

4. A: Are you good at skiing?

B: No, I'm not.

5. A: When I was young, I was good at drawing.

B: You still draw well!

► Challenge

1. Briant is holding the door up with the help of two younger boys.

2. The boys will live in the cave.

3. The cave was used by a Frenchman before the boys came to the island.

4. Inside the cave, there are all of the boys' things.

Part B Skill Focus

Vocabulary Preview

A.

1. a, e, h

2. b, f, g

B.

1. bandage

2. chases/chased

3. criminal

4. journal

5. net

6. stove

7. volcano

Reading Comprehension

► Beginning: Chapters 1–3

A.

1. T 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. F

B.

1. He is Gordon.
2. He is a student.
3. He is on a ship.
4. He does not know how to sail.

C.

1. d 2. a 3. c 4. b 5. d 6. a

► Middle: Chapters 4–5

A.

1. F 2. T 3. T 4. F 5. T

B.

1. Donagan
2. Gordon
3. Briant
4. Moko

C.

1. a 2. c 3. d 4. b 5. c 6. d

► End: Chapters 6–8

A.

1. T 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. T

B.

a → b → d → c

C.

1. c 2. b 3. d 4. a 5. b 6. c

Think and Write

Main Idea: boys shipwrecked on an island

Event 1: everyone helping out

Detail 1: hunting and fishing

Detail 2: moving things from the ship

Detail 3: making the cave their home

Event 2: other people arrive

Detail 1: a woman found

Detail 2: Evans shows up

Detail 3: the criminals come

Vocabulary Review

1. The boys were going sailing **at** the beginning of summer vacation.
2. After the boys had **gone** to bed, the captain and the crew left the ship.
3. The wind and the waves **hit** the small ship day and night.
4. They had many **kinds** of tools and other supplies.
5. He looked **through** the telescope and saw a strange orange light far away.
6. The forest was thick, and traveling was **difficult**.
7. The boys **discovered** a map in the journal.
8. The boys realized that **their** situation was very serious.
9. One of the men **died** in the fire.
10. The boys realized that they were **in** danger.

Summary

A.

4	1
3	2

B.

(Answers may vary.)

1. The boat was very old and broken, so they could not use it.
2. Suddenly, Briant saw something strange about a kilometer down the shore.
3. Briant led the criminals between two large boulders.
4. The boat was just big enough to hold them all.

Book Report

Story 1. harbor 2. supplies 3. criminals 4. pit 5. intelligent