

Grade 10 Literature Lessons 5&6 Worksheet

Friday soon began to understand all I said to him. I told him my own history, how I had come to the island and how long I had been there.

I described to him my home country of England. I told him about the ship wrecks and showed him where the boats had sunk. I told him about the other men who had drowned.

Friday excitedly added, "We save the white mans from drown, the boat full of white mans." I asked him how many. He told me counting on his fingers up to seventeen. I asked him what had happened to the men. He told me, "They live, they live in my country."

He told me the men had been living with his people for about four years and that the tribes did not hurt them. I asked him why they did not kill them. He said, "No, they make brother with them."

It was some time after this conversation that we were on top of the hill. The weather was very clear and the air was still and because of this, we could see land far off in the distance. Friday looked towards the land and started jumping and dancing. He called out, "Oh joy! Oh glad! There see my country! There my nation!" He looked so happy. I could see he missed his own country a lot.

I called to him and said, "Friday, do you want to be back in your own country, your own nation?"

"Yes," he said, "I be much glad to be at my own nation."

"What would you do there?" said I. "Would you turn wild again? Would you kill men?"

He looked very serious, and shaking his head, said, "No, no, Friday tell them to live good; no kill man, they willing love learn."

Then I asked him if he would go back to them. He smiled and told me that he could not swim so far. I told him I would make a canoe for him and he said that he would go if I would go with him.

"I'd go, but they would kill me."

"No, no. Me make, they no kill you; me make, they much love you." He meant he would tell them how I had killed his enemies and saved his life, and so he would make them love me.

After this conversation, I felt it would be safe to go to the mainland with Friday and I wanted to make the journey. So, I told Friday I would make a boat to carry us to his nation.

3 Read from line 19 "Friday soon began..." to line 43 "... us to his nation." Questions 1-3 are on this passage.

- 1 In this extract, Crusoe is surprised to learn that some of the shipwrecked sailors are alive
 - a but still considers Friday and his people to be 'wild' despite them having saved the sailors.
 - b but knows Friday and his people are not savages.
 - c and is now afraid they will want their gold and dog back.
- 2 Which lines best show that the mainland tribes are just as human, and therefore civilised, as Europeans?
 - a Line 19 "Friday soon began to understand all I said to him."
 - b Line 27 "...they make brother with them."
 - c Line 33 "I be much glad to be at my own nation."
- 3 Which lines best reveal Crusoe's real attitude toward Friday and his countrymen?
 - a Line 31 "I could see he missed his own country a lot."
 - b Lines 34 "What would you do there?" said I. "Would you turn wild again? Would you kill men?"
 - c Lines 43 "So, I told Friday I would make a boat to carry us to his nation."

Reading tip

Robinson Crusoe is a novel which contains many themes, some of which are obvious while others are not. From the interactions between the Crusoe and Friday, the reader can **infer** that the novel deals not only with the relationship between two characters, but also society's views at the time of publication.