

Text 2

Read the text. Answer the questions on your mark sheet.

<u>Robert Louis Stevenson – Scotland’s Most Famous Children’s Author</u>	1
Born in 1850, Stevenson was famous as the author of <i>Treasure Island</i> , <i>Kidnapped</i> and <i>The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde</i> .	2
Stevenson attended Edinburgh University and qualified as a lawyer, he never practised law. During his time at university he became interested in socialist and atheist ideas, much to his father’s disapproval.	3
He was often ill as a child and suffered from tuberculosis, so he spent most of his life travelling abroad to healthier climates. These travels inspired him to write about his time spent canoeing and riding donkeys in France. He later travelled by sea to America and continued his travels across the South Pacific; the scenery of this foreign land gave him the for his first novel, <i>Treasure Island</i> .	4
The novel described a search for buried treasure and the battle of good (in the form of a boy, Jim, and his friends) against evil (personified by the one-legged pirate, Long John Silver).	5
The theme of good and evil continued in his next novel, <i>The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde</i> , where Dr Jekyll discovers a drug that transforms him into the evil monster, Mr Hyde.	6
Stevenson went on to write stories about the struggles of the Scottish people and his novel <i>Kidnapped</i> was published in 1886, followed by <i>The Black Arrow</i> and <i>The Master of Ballantrae</i> , both published in 1888.	7
He finally settled in Samoa, where he died in 1894. Stevenson was greatly admired by his contemporaries and has been an inspiration for many writers. His books are still popular today and have been translated into several languages around the world.	8
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11. **The text is about a:**

- A Scottish writer.
- A lawyer.
- A historian.

12. **What did Stevenson's father think of his religious and political ideas?**

- He did not take any notice of them.
- He did not approve of them.
- He agreed with them.

13. **Why did Stevenson travel so much?**

- He suffered from poor health.
- He was easily bored.
- He was looking for work.

14. **According to the text, who was Long John Silver?**

- He was Jim's friend.
- He was a boy.
- He was Jim's enemy.

15. **What did people of the time think of Stevenson's books?**

- They disliked them.
- They thought they were very good.
- They did not understand them.

16. **Why have italics been used in parts of this text?**

- To show the titles of stories by Stevenson.
- To show the names of characters in the books.
- To show the names of places visited by Stevenson.

17. **The word that best fills the gap in line 14 is:**

- Inspiration.
- Text.
- Book.

18. **Which line has a spelling error?**

- Line 7.
- Line 12.
- Line 28.

19. **In the text, which word means the same as "fight"?**

- Control.
- Struggle.
- Adventure.

20. **Which word best fits the gap on line 6?**

- However.
- Therefore.
- Although.