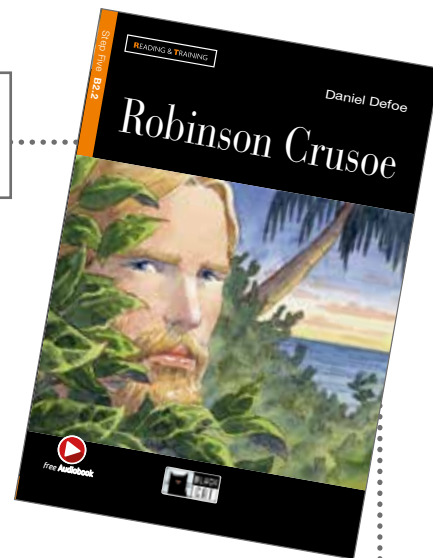


level
B2.2

LESSON PLAN 1/5



ROBINSON CRUSOE

Aim:

- to develop reading skills and expand vocabulary
- to predict the continuation of a story
- to identify a literary genre
- to encourage the pleasure of reading

Expansive Reading Theme:

Mercantilism: Trade, Wealth and Colonies

This **cross-curricular feature** allows students to explore the historical background, cultural connections and other topics of the dossiers and the text.

Level:

B2.2

Time:

60 minutes

Materials:

1. front cover illustration of the graded reader *ROBINSON CRUSOE*
2. worksheet – Part 1 and 2

INTRODUCTION

This lesson plan introduces Robinson Crusoe, one of the famous heroes of adventure stories, created by Daniel Defoe, the great English author. The short extract chosen will draw students into the plot, encourage them to ask questions, develop their vocabulary, delve into the complex character of Robinson Crusoe and predict what will happen next. With the new special feature, the Expansive Reading Theme, students will enjoy exploring the topics of the dossier, with their cross-curricular approach. All of this with the aim of increasing their pleasure in reading an all-time classic.

BACKGROUND NOTES ON THE STORY

The story is set in 17th century England, when seafaring was a popular job for young man who loved the sea and adventure. Robinson Crusoe, a young man, wanted to go to sea but his parents were strongly against it. However, Robinson ran off to sea and travelled to Africa and South America. He experienced all kinds of adventures, slavery and finally a disastrous ship wreck on a desert island! His survival would now depend on his cleverness and luck.

DISCUSSION AND PREDICTION

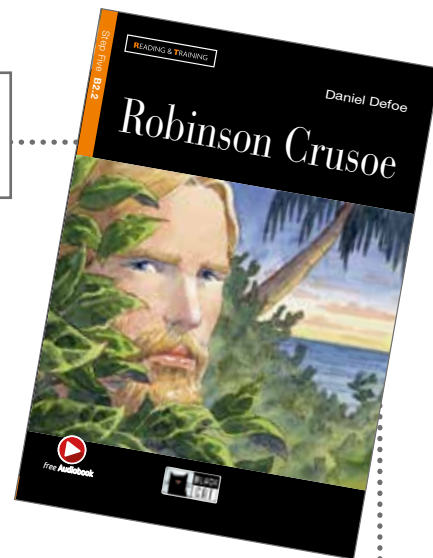
At this point, there are some questions that need to be answered.

1. What will Robinson Crusoe do now that he is alone on a desert island?
2. Will he regret having gone to sea, against his parents' wishes?
3. Will he be able to survive?
4. Will he ever return to England?



level
B2.2

LESSON PLAN 2/5



PROCEDURE

Before the lesson:

- make a copy of the worksheet, Parts 1 and 2 (one for each student)
- download a picture of a shipwreck (it can be also an illustration)
- tell your students you're going to be speaking about a book called Robinson Crusoe
- read the background notes on the story to the class

PART ONE

Step One (10 minutes)

Ask the students to comment on their first impressions and ask them these questions:

- What genre do you think it is?
- Have you read any other book by Daniel Defoe?

Show the students the cover illustration and ask them these questions.

- Where is Robinson Crusoe?
- How does this man feel and why?

Step Two (30 minutes)

Give students the worksheet, Part 1, and explain that the text comes from Chapter One, Robinson's Adventures at Sea.

- Ask them to do Exercise 1, Before you read.
- Ask them to work in pairs to check their answers.

(KEY: 1c, 2b, 3d, 4e, 5a)

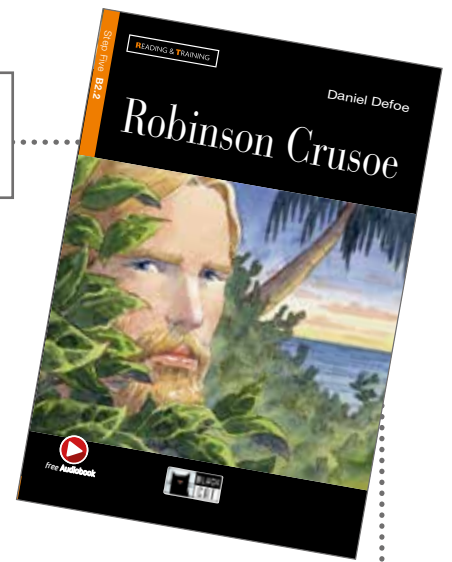
Read Exercise 2, the extract. You could read it out loud to make the story more dramatic.

- Then ask students to read it alone or in pairs for a more detailed understanding the second time.
- Ask students to comment with their opinions, predictions, feelings and observations.



level
B2.2

LESSON PLAN 3/5



PART 2 :

(20 minutes)

THEME *Mercantilism: Trade, Wealth and Colonies*

Tell your students that the **purpose** of this theme, is to have them experience “cross-curricular learning”; to connect what happened in the past to what is happening in today’s world. Their comments and opinions are the backbone of this kind of learning. At this level they will be able to discuss the theme with the help of the comments/questions.

- Ask them to read Part 2 of the worksheet.
- Ask students to work in pairs or in groups and comment on this extract. Use these questions to help them, or to set up a debate in class.
 - a. Can you compare what happened at the end of the 17th century with globalization today?
 - b. Which countries today are involved in transforming faraway places into efficient trading posts that bring immense wealth?
 - c. What are the similarities and the differences?
 - d. What are the advantages and disadvantages for the economies of the world?
 - e. Who are the “big international players” of the globalization game?
- If there is no time in class, this activity can be written homework.

