



Robinson Crusoe

On the seashore of a lovely island, there stood a man. He was still dizzy as he had just regained his consciousness. He looked very tired and sad. He remembered vaguely how a violent storm had hit their ship and it was wrecked. He thought that he might have been swept away by the wave to that lovely island.

This shipwrecked sailor was Robinson Crusoe. Robinson loved to travel on the sea. On 1 September, 1659, he along with some of his friends began a journey by the sea for trade. But luck did not favour them and their ship was wrecked. Robinson was the only survivor. He started his new life in that island. The wrecked ship was stuck in some rocks about a mile away from the seashore. Robinson made a raft and went to the ship. He brought some useful goods from the ship to the island. Among those, there were a cat and a dog who gave him company in the island. Robinson built a small house and tried to make his life as secure and comfortable as he could. He also tamed goats and cultivated a small plot of land to fulfil his need of food.



Time went on. One day Crusoe was standing near his house on the shore looking at the sea. He was eagerly waiting that a ship would come towards the island. But there wasn't any.

Suddenly, Crusoe saw some savages on the seashore. They were dragging two of their companions as if they were their prisoners. Crusoe wondered, "Who are

they? What are they going to do with them?" Crusoe hid himself behind a bush and noticed that the savages had killed one of their prisoners while the other escaped. He ran towards the island. Two other men followed him. The poor man reached the place where Crusoe was hiding. Crusoe decided to save the man. Before the two men could catch him, he knocked them down. The man was so shocked at the sudden happenings that he could not even utter a single word.

From that day the man stayed with Crusoe. After a long time of loneliness, Crusoe at last had a companion. Crusoe named him 'Friday' as he was rescued on a Friday.

Friday became the only companion of Crusoe during his stay in that island. Crusoe taught him the English language and all those things of a civilized life.

One day Friday came running to Crusoe. He shouted, "Master! They have come." Crusoe asked him who had come. Friday pointed to the sea. Crusoe saw that a ship with an English flag was coming towards the island. He said to Friday, "Don't go near them now. We do not know if they are our friends or enemies."

The ship was an English ship. Crusoe somehow convinced the members of the ship to carry him and Friday to England. Crusoe was very excited and on a fine sunny day, they made the preparation to leave the island.

Crusoe took with him a large goat skinned cap and a large umbrella which he had made himself during his stay in the island.

It was 19 November 1686; Crusoe and Friday left the island forever. Robinson Crusoe had lived in the island for 28 years 2 months and 16 days. What an adventurous life he had in the island for such a long time!

Word Note:

seashore : the land along the edge of a sea or ocean

wrecked : damaged or destroyed

savage : a cruel and violent person

civilized : having or showing polite and reasonable behaviour

Remember the Words

seashore	dizzy	consciousness	vaguely	wrecked	shipwrecked
survivor	raft	tamed	cultivated	savages	dragging
escaped	utter	loneliness	rescued	convinced	preparation
adventurous	companions				

About the Author

Daniel Defoe was born in London. His father was a butcher. He used to write articles for magazines and edited a weekly magazine 'The Review'. In 1719 Defoe's book **Robinson Crusoe** was published. It was based on the experience of Alexander Selkirk, a Scottish sailor. The sailor landed on an uninhabited island of the Coast of Chile. The realistic account of his adventure became popular and changed Defoe into a writer of established reputation. His other famous books are **Moll Flanders**, **Roxana** and **Captain Singleton** etc.

For the teacher only

The students are expected to learn the use of the auxiliary verbs eg. **be, have, do**. They are also expected to learn **Wh-question words**.

Comprehension :

1. Answer the following questions in complete sentences.
 - a) What is the name of the shipwrecked sailor?
 - b) When did he begin his journey by the sea for trade?
 - c) Who gave him company in the island at the beginning?
 - d) What did Crusoe call the man whom he had rescued?
 - e) Which language did Crusoe teach Friday?
2. How did Crusoe manage to go back to England?
3. Write whether the following statements are true or false.
 - a) Robinson Crusoe did not love to travel on the sea.

- b) Robinson Crusoe was the only survivor.
 c) Robinson tamed horse.
 d) Friday was rescued on a Sunday.
 e) Robinson Crusoe went back to England on an English ship on 19 November, 1686.

Grammar and Usage:

A.

**Use of 'be' verbs (am, is, are, was, were)
 as helping verbs or auxiliary verbs**

'Be' verbs are used to form the continuous tense form of verbs

The Present Continuous Tense

Examples :

- i) I **am drawing** a picture.
- ii) He **is drinking** a glass of milk.
- iii) They **are eating** mangoes.
- iv) Samriddhi **is driving** a car.
- v) The children **are singing** a chorus.

(In the above sentences the verbs 'am', 'is', 'are' are called auxiliary verbs. They are helping the main verbs 'draw', 'drink', 'eat', 'drive' and 'sing' to form the structure of the Present Continuous Tense.)

Activity 1

Fill in the blanks with **am/is/are**.

- i) The birds flying in the sky now.
- ii) Rupak reading; don't disturb him.
- iii) Look! Ireading a book written by Chetan Bhagat.
- iv) At this moment, my father drinking tea.
- v) The women are busy because they washing clothes.

The Past Continuous Tense

The Past Continuous Tense is used when an action was continued for sometime in the past

Sentence Structure of The Past Continuous Tense

Subject	+	was/were	+	verb+ing
I		was		sleeping
He		was		eating
They		were		talking

Now look at the following table:

Person		Singular	Plural
First Person	:	I was writing	We were writing
Second Person	:	You were writing	You were writing
Third Person	:	He was writing Saki was writing	They were writing

Examples:

- i) When he saw me I **was reading** a newspaper.
- ii) We **were running** on the bank of the river at that time.
- iii) You **were sitting** on the bench then.
- iv) The boy **was speaking** to his friends at that moment.
- v) When my father saw them they **were singing** a Jyoti Sangeet.

(In the above sentences the verbs 'was' and 'were' are called auxiliary verbs. They are helping the main verbs 'read', 'run', 'sit', 'speak' and 'sing' to form the structure of the Past Continuous Tense.)

Activity 2

Fill in the blanks with **was/were**.

- i) The girl dancing on the stage when they saw her.
- ii) The women wearing traditional dresses then.
- iii) Lalita swimming in the pool at that time.

- iv) The childreneating oranges at that moment.
v) When my mother saw him, he riding a bicycle.

B.

**Use of 'has', 'have' as auxiliary verbs
or helping verbs**

We use 'has' and 'have' to form the Present Perfect Tense

The Present Perfect Tense

Examples:

- i) I **have written** a letter just now.
ii) We **have** already **won** the match.
iii) He **has** just **posted** the letter.
iv) You **have finished** your homework just now.
v) Ronit **has** already **eaten** the apples.

(In the above sentences the verbs 'has' and 'have' are called auxiliary verbs. They are helping the main verbs 'write', 'win', 'post', 'finish' and 'eat' to form the structure of the Present Perfect Tense.)

Activity 3

Fill in the blanks with 'have' or 'has'.

- i) Robinalready bought the novel.
ii) You opened the window just now.
iii) Shejust cut her finger.
iv) The dried leavesalready fallen from the tree.
v) The monkeyeaten all the bananas just now.

C.

Use of 'do', 'does' and 'did' as auxiliary verbs

We use 'do', 'does' and 'did' to form negative and interrogative sentences.

Examples of Negative Sentences :

- i) They **did not** fight yesterday.
- ii) He **does not** drink coffee.
- iii) We **do not** like to eat oranges.

Activity 4

Fill in the blanks with 'do', 'does' or 'did'.

- i) She not teach us English last year.
- ii) Leena and Seema not like to drink milk.
- iii) I not quarrel with my friends.
- iv) Smita not go to school yesterday.
- v) My pet dog not bark at strangers.

Examples of Interrogative Sentences :

- i) **Did** they come yesterday?
- ii) **Does** he drink milk?
- iii) **Do** you like to eat mangoes?

Activity 5

Fill in the blanks with 'do', 'does' or 'did'.

- i) she teach them Hindi last year?
- ii) Reena like to eat apples?
- iii) you go to school by bus?
- iv) Simanta come here every Sunday?
- v) they go to library last Saturday?

(In the above examples of negative and interrogative sentences 'do', 'does' and 'did' help the main verbs 'fight', 'drink', 'like' and 'come' to form negative and interrogative sentences. These different forms of 'do' verb are called auxiliary verbs.)

[Note : The above mentioned verbs like 'am', 'is', 'are', 'was', 'were', 'has', 'have', 'do', 'does' and 'did' are called **Primary Auxiliary Verbs.**]

D.

Wh-question words

'Who', 'Whom', 'Whose', 'What', 'Which', 'How', 'Why', 'When' and 'Where' are called Wh-question words. We use these Wh-question words to ask questions

Examples:

- i) **Who** took my pen?
- ii) **Whom** did you see?
- iii) With **whom** did you go there?
- iv) **Whose** book is this?
- v) **What** is your name?
- vi) **What** do you want?
- vii) **Which** is your book?
- viii) **How** did he come here?
- ix) **Why** are you late?
- x) **When** will he come?
- xi) **Where** do you live?
- xii) **Where** have you come from?

Writing Activity:

Dr. Bhupen Hazarika was born on 8 September 1926 in Sadiya. The name of his father was Nilakanta Hazarika and his mother's name was Shantipriya Hazarika. He was a famous singer, musician, filmmaker and lyricist of Assam. He received the Dada Saheb Phalke award in 1992. He died on 5 November 2011. Dr Bhupen Hazarika has been conferred Bharat Ratna posthumously.

Now look at the following questions and their answers:

1) **Who** was Dr. Bhupen Hazarika?

Ans: Dr. Bhupen Hazarika was a famous singer, musician, filmmaker and lyricist of

Assam.

2) **When** was he born?

Ans: He was born on 8 September 1926.

3) **Where** was he born?

Ans: He was born in Sadiya.

4) **What** was the name of his father?

Ans: The name of his father was Nilakanta Hazarika.

5) **What** was the name of his mother?

Ans: The name of his mother was Shantipriya Hazarika.

6) **When** did he receive the Dada Saheb Phalke Award?

Ans: He received the Dada Saheb Phalke Award in 1992.

7) **When** did he die?

Ans: He died on 5 November 2011.

Daily Assam. Com

Given below is a paragraph on Gautam Buddha. Read the paragraph and frame as many questions as you can on the basis of it.

Gautam Buddha was born in 563 B.C. in Lumbini. His father's name was Suddhodhana and his mother's name was Mayadevi. Another name of Gautam Buddha was Siddhartha. The religion Buddhism was founded on his teachings. He is also called Sakyamuni. He died in 483 B.C. in Kushinagar.



Lumbini : a Buddhist pilgrimage site in the Rupandehi district of Nepal.

Kushinagar : a pilgrimage town in Uttar Pradesh.

Build Up Your Vocabulary

Synonyms

Daily Assam. Com

remember -- recall
quarrel -- dispute
polite -- civil
love -- affection
joy -- happiness
gentle -- kind
dirty -- filthy
false -- untrue
ancient -- old
destroy -- ruin

quit -- leave
perfume -- fragrance
new -- fresh
look -- see
journey -- travel
grief -- sorrow
disease -- illness
energy -- strength
brief -- short
battle -- war

Antonyms

kind -- cruel
big -- small
early -- late
hard -- soft
birth -- death
right -- wrong
tall -- short
pleasure -- pain
comedy -- tragedy
entrance -- exit

accept -- reject
cold -- hot
patriot -- traitor
dead -- alive
rich -- poor
strong -- weak
beautiful -- ugly
darkness -- light
quick -- slow
ancient -- modern

