

EXPLORING THE WORLD

- 1 Read the text *I Have Always Been A Rover*¹ and answer the questions: What did Ralph always dream of? Did his dreams come true?

I Have Always Been A Rover

(from *The Coral Island* after R. M. Ballantyne)

Roving has always been, and still is, the greatest joy of my heart, the very sunshine of my life. In childhood, in boyhood and in adult² years, I have been a rover. I liked to wander³ among the woods and hills of my native land, and I dreamed of travelling the wide, wide world.

Ralph ['rælf], Jack Martin ['dʒæk 'mɑ:rtɪn], Peterkin Gay ['pi:təkin 'geɪ]

My father was a sea-captain; my grandfather was a sea-captain; my great-grandfather had also sailed in many seas. My mother always went to sea with my father on his long voyages, and so spent the greater part of her life on the water.

It is not surprising that I am so greatly fond of travelling.

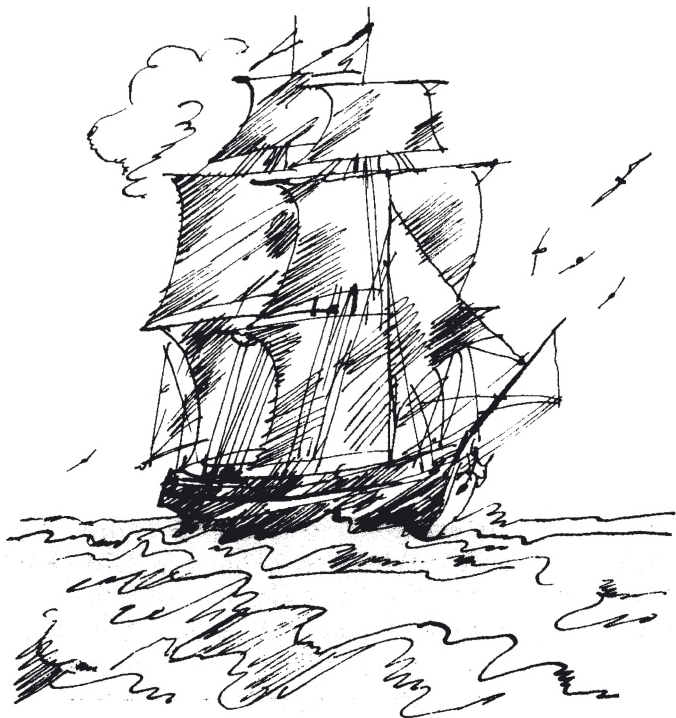
When I was a little boy I liked wandering far and near on the shore and in the woods around our house, and as I grew older my walks became longer and longer, and my wish to explore the countryside stronger and stronger. I often asked my father to let me go to sea, and at last he allowed me to take work on a ship. I became a ship-boy on a coaster⁴ that sailed along the coast taking goods to different ports.

¹ to rove [rouv] — странствовать, скитаться; rover — скиталец, бродяга

² adult ['ædʌlt] — взрослый

³ to wander ['wɒndə] — бродить

⁴ coaster ['koustə] — небольшое судно, курсирующее вдоль берега



For some years I was happy visiting the seaports, and coasting along the shores of my native land. My name was Ralph, and my comrades added to this the name of Rover because they knew that I had always loved to travel. Rover was not my real name, but I soon got used to¹ it and began to answer to it.

So they called me Ralph Rover.

While I was a ship-boy, I met many seamen who had travelled to almost every part of the globe. I listened with delight to their stories about foreign lands and their adventures — the terrible storms, the dangers they had passed, the wonderful things they had seen both on the land and in the sea, and the interesting lands and strange people they had visited. But of all the places of which

¹ to get used to — привыкнуть

they told me, none¹ charmed² my imagination as much as the Coral Islands of the South Seas. They told me of thousands of beautiful islands where summer lasted all the year round; where the trees were full of fruit; where the weather was always delightful; yet where, strange to say, men were wild, bloodthirsty savages³. These exciting stories had such a great effect upon my mind⁴ that, when I was fifteen years old, I decided to make a voyage to the South Seas.

At first my parents did not want to let me go so far. But I many times told my father that I would never become a great captain if I sailed only along the coast. My father saw the truth of what I said, and agreed.

My father had an old friend, a captain in his own ship, the *Arrow*. He was going to sail to the South Seas. The captain agreed to take me as a ship-boy. Soon I went on board the *Arrow*, which was a fine large ship, and set sail for the islands of the Pacific Ocean.

It was a bright, beautiful, warm day when our ship sailed for the South Seas. Oh, how my heart beat with delight as I listened to the merry voices of the sailors while they weighed anchor⁵! The captain shouted; the men ran to obey; the breeze blew in my face, while I stood looking at the shore with a feeling that everything was a delightful dream.

There were a number of boys in the ship, but two of them were my special favourites. Jack Martin was a tall,

¹ **none** [nʌn] — ничто

² **to charm** [tʃɑ:m] — очаровать

³ **bloodthirsty** ['blʌd'θɜ:stɪ] **savages** ['sævɪdʒɪz] — кровожадные дикари

⁴ **to have an effect** [ɪ'fekt] **upon one mind** — подействовать на ум, мысли

⁵ **to weigh** [weɪ] **anchor** ['æŋkə] — сняться с якоря

strong boy of eighteen, with a pleasant and kind face. He had a good education, was clever and hearty and lion-like¹ in his actions but quiet in character. Jack was everybody's favourite, and he was very friendly to me. My other companion was Peterkin Gay. He was little, quick, funny, not serious, and about fourteen years old.

"Hallo, boy!" cried Jack Martin when I joined the ship, "come, and I'll show you your berth². You and I are shipmates, and I think we shall be good friends, for I like you."

Jack was right. He and I, and later Peterkin, became very good friends.

The first part of our voyage was quiet. The weather was sometimes fine, and sometimes rough³. We saw many strange fish in the sea, and I was greatly delighted one day when I saw a flying fish jump out of the water and fly through the air about a foot above the water. We also saw dolphins and other sea animals.

When we were near Cape Horn⁴ the weather became cold and stormy, and the sailors began to tell stories about the strong winds and the dangers of that terrible Cape.

But we passed the terrible Cape without any trouble, and soon we were sailing gently before a warm tropical breeze over the Pacific Ocean.

At last we came among the Coral Islands, and I shall never forget the delight with which I looked at their shores, and the palm trees, which looked bright and beautiful in the sunshine. Jack, Peterkin and I wanted very much to land on one of the islands, and we imagined that we should be perfectly happy there! Our wish came true sooner than we expected.

¹ **lion-like** — подобен льву

² **berth** [bɜːθ] — койка

³ **rough** [rʌf] — резкий, бурный; зд. ненастный, суровый

⁴ **Cape Horn** — Мыс Горн (южная оконечность Америки)

Do You Understand The Story?

2

Choose the correct ending.

- 1 Ralph wanted to become a seaman because:
 - his parents wanted him to see the world.
 - his father and his grandfather were sea-captains, and Ralph wanted to follow in their footsteps.
 - he was a rover by nature.
- 2 Ralph's shipmates called the boy Ralph Rover because:
 - they knew that the boy had always loved to travel.
 - they liked to give nicknames to others.
 - they were sure it was his real name.
- 3 Ralph decided to make a voyage to the South Seas because:
 - the Coral Islands were unknown to him.
 - the seamen's exciting stories about their dangerous adventures and beautiful lands had a great effect upon his mind.
 - he wanted to see bloodthirsty savages with his own eyes.
- 4 When their ship sailed for the South Seas, Ralph's heart beat with delight because:
 - the day was bright and beautiful.
 - the breeze blew in his face.
 - his dream to travel the world was coming true.
- 5 Ralph was delighted with the voyage at first because:
 - he saw dolphins and other sea animals.
 - the voyage was quiet and pleasant.
 - the sailors told exciting stories about their adventures.

3

Find in the text and read the sentences which prove that:

- 1 Ralph was happy when his voyage began.
- 2 Ralph found good friends on board the ship.
- 3 Ralph saw a lot of wonderful things during his voyage.
- 4 The sailors were afraid to pass Cape Horn.

4 *Answer the questions.*

- 1 Where did Ralph live and who were his parents and grandparents?
- 2 When did he first begin to take an interest in travelling?
- 3 Why did Ralph's father allow him to go to sea when he was still very young?
- 4 What work did Ralph take on his first ship?
- 5 What stories did Ralph often hear from the seamen whom he met?
- 6 What effect did the seamen's stories have on Ralph's mind?
- 7 What feeling did Ralph have when his ship sailed for the South Seas?
- 8 Who did Ralph make friends with?
- 9 What kind of boys were Jack Martin and Peterkin Gay?
- 10 Was Ralph happy when he saw the shores of the Coral Islands?

How Good Is Your English?

(see pp 80—83)



What Do You Think?

- 5** *Why do you think it was not surprising that:*
- all Ralph's friends and companions called him Ralph Rover?
 - the stories about the Coral Islands charmed Ralph?
 - Ralph found good friends on board the *Arrow*?
- 6** *Say what kind of boy you think Ralph was. What were his interests, dreams and wishes? Was he a boy of strong character?*





How Good Is Your English?

7 Use the proper word from the box.

- 1 Every trip to the countryside is a great for the family.
- 2 He was a young sailor on his first sea
- 3 There are some wonderful towns on the east of Italy.
- 4 You can walk for miles along the
- 5 English is this boy's language.
- 6 I read my friend's letter with great
- 7 We hope you understood the of mountain-climbing.
- 8 Both teams played well — it was a really an match.

coast
exciting
shores
native
delight
joy
voyage
danger

8 Match the words in column A with the words in column B.

A	B
strong	breezes
dangerous	coral reefs
merry	weather
light	faces
delightful	winds
brave	voices
friendly	dreams
fine	actions

9 Choose the proper word to complete each sentence (✓).

- 1 The greatest joy of my heart is (dreaming, reading, talking).
- 2 It is not surprising that a lot of people are fond of (travelling, roving, wandering).
- 3 Nobody has ever said that I am (wild, cowardly, kind).
- 4 The weather in the South of the country is always(delightful, terrible, unpleasant).
- 5 Books about exploring the world are usually (exciting, funny, strange).
- 6 Children listen to adventure stories with (delight, interest, curiosity).
- 7 Making voyages has often been(dangerous, wonderful, dull).

10 Use the correct preposition where necessary.

- 1 We enjoy wandering the woods and hills in the countryside.
- 2 The fishing village was situatedthe west coast of England.
- 3 Both children and grown-ups dream travelling the wide, wide world.
- 4 The boy began to think about making exciting voyages far off landsan early age.
- 5 He was very hearty and kindcharacter.
- 6 We joineda group of people who stood near the palm tree.
- 7 For the first time in his life he saw a flying fish jump the water and fly through the air.
- 8 People usually follow those who are clever and strong.

to
among
on
of
at
in
out of

11 Find the words which are close in meaning.

surprising	friends
cottage	good-natured
to rove	to wander
mates	strange
kind	to charm
to delight	house

12 Let somebody do. Allow somebody to do. Use the particle *to* where necessary.

- 1 My parents never let me wander far from the house.
- 2 They only allow me go for walks near the country cottage.
- 3 Elder sisters and brothers usually do not allow us sail on a boat.
- 4 I often ask my mother to let me play jokes on my sisters.

13 a) Write the missing forms of the verbs.

to beat	beat	beaten
to blow		
to become		
to enter		
to break		
to obey		
to give		
to carry		

b) Past Indefinite? Past Perfect? Choose the correct form of the verb (✓).

- 1 The boy began to work on a ship that (sailed, had sailed) along the coast taking goods to different ports.
- 2 All his friends knew that he (loved, had loved) to travel.
- 3 The boy liked to listen to the stories of people who (passed, had passed) many dangers.
- 4 He told us about the strange and interesting lands he (visited, had visited).
- 5 The boy's heart beat with delight as he (listened, had listened) to the merry voices of the sailors.
- 6 The sailors began to tell stories about the dangerous places they once (saw, had seen).

c) Past Indefinite? Future-in-the-Past? Use the correct form of the verb.

- 1 The boy (believe) that he
..... (become) a captain.
- 2 He (be) sure that he
.....(see) a lot of wonderful places.
- 3 The man (want) to
spend a month on the seashore where he
..... (enjoy) the view of the beautiful sea.
- 4 He (decide) that he
..... (make) a voyage to the South Seas.
- 5 Martin (think) that we
..... (become) good friends.
- 6 We (imagine) that we
..... (be) perfectly happy on the
islands.

- 14 Read the text *A Shipwreck*¹ and answer the question: What did the boys find out about the island on which they had to live after the shipwreck?

A Shipwreck

(from *The Coral Island* after R. M. Ballantyne)

One night, soon after we entered the tropics, a terrible storm began. The strong wind carried away two of our masts and swept off everything that was on the deck. Only one small boat remained. For five days the storm raged². On the sixth morning we saw land ahead. It was an island encircled³ by a reef of coral on which the waves broke.

The ship could not reach the shore, and the captain ordered to get the boat ready to launch. "We shall be on the rocks in less than half an hour," he said.

The men obeyed in gloomy⁴ silence, for they felt that there was little hope to sail to the shore in such a small boat.

The men were already ready with the boat, when suddenly a great wave fell on the deck. At the same moment the ship struck, the foremast⁵ broke off close to the deck and went over the side, carrying the boat and men along with it. We all seized hold of the oar⁶, and the next moment we were struggling in the wild sea. Then I did not feel anything.

When I recovered I could hardly open my eyes. I found myself lying on the soft grass, with Jack and Peterkin on his knees near me. He was carefully bathing

¹ **shipwreck** ['ʃɪprek] — кораблекрушение

² **to rage** [reɪdʒ] — бушевать

³ **encircled** [ɪn'sɜ:kld] — окруженный

⁴ **gloomy** ['glu:mɪ] — мрачный

⁵ **foremast** ['fɔ:mɑ:st] — мор. фок-мачта

⁶ **to seize** [si:z] **hold of the oar** [ɔ:] — ухватиться за весло



my temples¹ with water and trying to stop the blood that flowed from a wound² in my forehead.

Slowly my thoughts became clear again and I remembered everything.

“But what happened to the ship, Jack?” I asked my friend. “What happened to the captain and the sailors? Is anybody else alive?”

Jack shook his head sadly. “I have little hope that they are saved. They were too many for one boat.”

There was a long silence. We thought about our poor companions and felt very unhappy.

“What shall we do now, Jack?” I asked at last.

“We must find a place for a camp first, and then explore the island. This island, it seems, will be our home for some time, and we must try to make ourselves as comfortable as possible, we must find food, water and a good shelter³. There may be people on the island and we don't know whether they will be friendly or unfriendly to us. We shall soon find that out. Come on! And cheer up, friends! Never say die!⁴”

Some time passed. I began to feel quite strong again, and we decided to explore the island.

We walked along the sea-beach till we came to the valley, through which flowed a narrow stream. The valley looked truly very beautiful. It was all covered with trees and shrubs⁵. We saw two hills at some distance, and thought it would be good to climb to the top of one of them to see what was beyond this hill. We went to the foot of the hill. I was surprised, during the walk, at the richness of the bushes and plants growing together under the trees. There were many berries and plants which

¹ **temple** ['tempɫ] — висок

² **wound** [wu:nd] — рана

³ **shelter** ['ʃeltə] — убежище

⁴ **Cheer up! Never say die!** — Бодрее! Не отчаивайтесь!

⁵ **shrub** [ʃrʌb] — куст, кустарник

looked like some berries and plants in my native land. There were some flowers, too, but I did not see so many of these as I could expect in such a climate. We also saw a lot of small birds of bright colours. Soon we reached the foot of the hill and were ready to climb it. Suddenly Peterkin stopped.

“Hallo!” he cried. “What’s that?”

“I can see nothing,” Jack said. “I think it —”

Then we heard a loud noise. We could not understand where it came from. My companions later confessed¹ that their thoughts at this moment had been about all they had read or heard of wild animals and savages, and such like terrible things. Suddenly the noise became louder. Then we heard a crash² among the bushes, then another crash. In a moment a big rock came crashing through the shrubs, followed by a cloud of dust and small stones, and fell near the spot where we stood.

“Pooh! Is that all!” exclaimed Peterkin. “Why, I thought it was all the wild men and animals in the South Sea Islands. But it was only a stone falling down from the top.”

“This stone could kill any of us,” said Jack, and this was true. So we decided, in our future excursions, we would walk more carefully.

We made a few steps, and here Jack made a discovery which gave us all great joy. This was a very beautiful tree, and Jack said it was a famous bread-fruit tree.

“Is it famous?” asked Peterkin. “That’s strange. I never heard of it before.”

“Then listen, you ignorant³ boy! And hear of it now,” said Jack with a smile.

¹ **to confess** [kən'fes] — признаваться

² **crash** — грохот, треск; **to crash** — падать, рушиться с треском

³ **ignorant** ['ɪgnərənt] — невежественный

Peterkin and I were soon listening with much interest to what Jack told us about this tree. It was one of the most valuable¹ trees in the islands of south; it gave two, sometimes three crops of fruit in the year; the fruit looked like bread, and it was the main food of many of the islanders.

“So,” said Peterkin, “we have everything ready prepared to our hands in this wonderful island — lemonade in cocoa-nuts, there are so many cocoa-nut palms here, and bread growing on the trees!”

“Moreover,” continued Jack, “the bread-fruit tree gives gum² which the islanders use to pitch their canoes³; they use young branches to make cloth, and of the wood, they build their houses. So you see, boys, that we have so much material here to make us comfortable, if we are only clever enough to use it.”

We looked at the bread-fruit tree more attentively. There was much fruit on it, it was of different colours, from light green to brown and yellow. Jack said that the yellow was the ripe⁴ fruit. We felt happy that we had food to eat.

We continued climbing. On our way up we came to an object⁵ which filled us with much interest. This was a tree that somebody had cut down with an axe! So, then, we were not the first who had seen this beautiful island. The hand of man had been at work there before us. We began to think again that there were perhaps some people on the island. Then we noticed some strange marks on the tree. They looked like letters J.S., but we could not be

¹ **valuable** ['væljuəbl] — ценный, полезный

² **gum** — смолистое выделение

³ **to pitch a canoe** [kə'nu:] — смолить каное (*челнок*)

⁴ **ripe** [raɪp] — зрелый, спелый

⁵ **object** ['ɒbdʒɪkt] — предмет, вещь

sure. We were greatly surprised at this discovery, and stayed a long time at the place thinking about what these marks could mean.

Do You Understand The Story?

15 *Choose the correct ending to each sentence.*

- 1 The ship could not reach the shore because:
 - the wind swept off everything that was on the deck.
 - there were dangerous coral reefs near the shore.
 - the storm was strong.

- 2 The boys were able to reach the shore because:
 - their boat was very good.
 - they clung to a large oar.
 - other sailors helped them.

- 3 Ralph and his friends decided to explore the island because:
 - they wanted to find food and water.
 - they were curious boys.
 - they looked for more adventures.

- 4 The boys were frightened when:
 - they heard a loud noise.
 - they heard a crash among the bushes and saw a big rock falling near the spot where they stood.
 - they saw some strange marks on the tree.

- 5 The boys felt happy when:
- they came across a bread-fruit tree.
 - they thought that there were perhaps some people on the island.
 - they saw how beautiful the island was.

16 *Find in the text and read the sentences which prove that:*

- the storm in the South Seas was really terrible;
- everybody understood that it would be hard to reach the shore;
- there was no hope that some other people were saved;
- it was necessary to explore the island;
- the island was truly beautiful;
- the boys were frightened when they heard a noise;
- the boys made some interesting discoveries.

17 *Answer the questions.*

- 1 What happened to the ship after the storm had begun?
- 2 Was the situation very dangerous? Why?
- 3 What did Ralph see when he recovered?
- 4 Were the friends sure that some sailors from their ship were alive?
- 5 What were the first important things the friends had to do when they discovered they were alone on the island?
- 6 Why did they think they had to be very careful?
- 7 What did the island look like?
- 8 What did the boys see during their walk?

- 9 What frightened the boys when they reached the foot of one of the hills?
- 10 What did Jack tell the boys about the bread-fruit tree?
- 11 Why did the boys begin to think that there were people on the island? What marks did they see on the tree?
- 18 *Speak about the interesting discoveries the boys made during their journey.*

How Good Is Your English?

(see pp 92—93)

What Do You Think?

- 19 *What do you think the boys felt:*
- when they discovered that the captain and the sailors were not saved?
 - when they saw many trees and plants on the island that could give them food and drink?
 - when they heard a crash among the bushes?
 - when they saw a tree that somebody had cut down with an axe?
 - when they noticed letters J.S. on the tree?
- 20 *What do you think will happen next? Use your imagination freely.*



How Good Is Your English?



21 Use the proper word from the box.

- 1 This sofa is really ,
isn't it?
- 2 The region is in
minerals and coal.
- 3 Her on what
had happened to her surprised everyone.
- 4 Next week we are going on an
.....
- 5 The of
America was very important to the world.
- 6 Books about travellers are
usually very interesting and exciting.
- 7 He said the voyage wouldn't be dangerous at all and
I was silly to believe him.

silence
enough
comfortable
rich
famous
excursion
discovery

22 Match the words in column A with the words in column B.

A	B
strange	thoughts
clear	streams
good	hills
high	men
native	land
wild	marks
narrow	animals
interesting	excursions
ignorant	fruit
ripe	companions

23 a) Past Indefinite? Past Perfect? Choose the correct form of the verb (✓).

- 1 One night a storm broke out, and it (carried, had carried) away two masts.
- 2 When the boy recovered, he couldn't understand what (happened, had happened) to him.
- 3 Some time passed, and the boys (decided, had decided) to explore the island.
- 4 Jack made a discovery which (gave, had given) the boys great joy.
- 5 The boys saw a tree that somebody (cut, had cut) down with an axe.
- 6 The boys thought that some people (were, had been) in that place before them.

b) Past Indefinite? Future-in-the-Past? Use the correct form of the verb.

- 1 Everybody (hope) that the storm (not last) long.
- 2 The captain (fear) that the ship (hit) the dangerous coral reefs and (break).
- 3 The sailors (not believe) that the little boat (reach) the shore.
- 4 The boys (understand) that their life on the island (be) hard.
- 5 They (be) afraid that they (see) savages on the island.
- 6 They (hope) that they (find) something to eat.