

TOG Pre-Rhetoric Literature assignment due at Co-Op 12 on Feb. 23

We will be reading *Robinson Crusoe* by Daniel Defoe (adapted by Bob Blaisdell) for our next co-op. Advanced students may opt to read the original version rather than the abridged story.

Students should carefully read ALL the questions below before starting the assignment. Answer the questions below in complete sentences and bring your answers to Co-Op 12.

1. Explain this quote from Chapter 1: “Young man, depend upon it, if you do not go back, wherever you go, you will meet with nothing but disasters and disappointments, till your father’s warnings come true.”
2. Why do you think Crusoe agree to go on a trade voyage for his friends (fellow planters and merchants) even though he didn’t really want to?
3. Crusoe calls the place where he is shipwrecked a “horrid island.” What evidence does he give to show that the island is horrid?
4. This story was printed as a non-fiction account of the Scottish adventurer Alexander Selkirk who was rescued in 1709 after being marooned on a desert island for 5 years. What aspects of this story might make you doubt that it is a real-life account? Select 3 aspects of the story that don’t seem believable to you and explain why.
5. This story is written in a very matter-of-fact style and includes very little feeling or emotion. As you’re reading, when feelings or emotions ARE listed, make a note of them — keep a running list with page numbers as you’re reading. *It is not necessary to answer this question in a complete sentence.*
6. Did you find Crusoe to be a likable character? How would the story have been different for you if more emotion was included?
7. How did Robinson Crusoe fill the void for companionship?
8. Do you think that companionship is an essential need for human beings? Why or why not? Explain your reasoning from a Biblical perspective.
9. List three things you would take with you to survive on a desert island. Explain your choices.