



Robinson Crusoe

by Daniel Defoe

Daniel Defoe's pioneering survival novel chronicles a shipwrecked Englishman's ingenuity and resilience over 28 years on a deserted island, considered one of the first true novels in English.

Rank #8

Elite 10

Power Words

#	WORD	DEFINITION
1	laboriously	adv. in a way that requires a lot of effort. <i>"He laboriously hollowed a canoe from a great cedar trunk, only to find he could not drag it to sea."</i>
1	apprehensive	adj. feeling anxious about something that may happen. <i>"Crusoe grew deeply apprehensive after discovering the footprint, and doubled the height of his outer stockade that night."</i>
1	deliberate	adj. done on purpose and with careful thought. <i>"Every action Crusoe took was deliberate and measured, for a single miscalculation could cost him everything he had built."</i>
1	desolate	adj. feeling sad and lonely or deserted. <i>"The desolate coastline offered no sign of passing ships, and the silence pressed in on him like a weight."</i>
1	fortify	v. to make stronger or more secure. <i>"His first priority was to fortify his shelter against both the elements and any savages who might land."</i>
1	improvise	v. to create or perform without preparation. <i>"Without a kiln he had to improvise, drying his earthen pots slowly under the fierce equatorial sun."</i>
1	industrious	adj. hardworking and diligent in tasks. <i>"By nature industrious, he could not remain idle; even in despair his hands sought timber, clay, or grain."</i>
1	methodically	adv. in an orderly and systematic way. <i>"He methodically catalogued every item rescued from the wreck, rationing supplies against an unknown length of exile."</i>
1	persevering	v. to continue despite difficulties or opposition or discouragement; adj. continuing despite difficulties opposition or discouragement <i>"Crusoe was nothing if not persevering; he rebuilt his canoe three times before it finally held the water."</i>
1	providential	adj. happening by good fortune or chance. <i>"He regarded the sprouting barley as providential, a sign that heaven had not entirely forsaken his small patch."</i>
1	resourceful	adj. able to find quick and clever ways to do things. <i>"Crusoe proved remarkably resourceful, fashioning tools from salvaged timber long before his first harvest came in."</i>
1	salvageable	adj. able to be saved or recovered. <i>"He waded back to the wreck repeatedly, determined to retrieve every salvageable plank before the tide turned against him."</i>
1	self-sufficient	adj. able to provide for oneself without help. <i>"After five years he had become entirely self-sufficient, growing grain, raising goats, and curing his own provisions."</i>
1	solitary	adj. being alone or without companions. <i>"The solitary years wore upon his spirit, yet Crusoe filled each day with labour to keep despair at bay."</i>
1	tenaciously	adv. In a manner that is very determined to do something and not easily discouraged. <i>"He tenaciously maintained his calendar, cutting notches into the post lest he lose all reckoning of the days."</i>