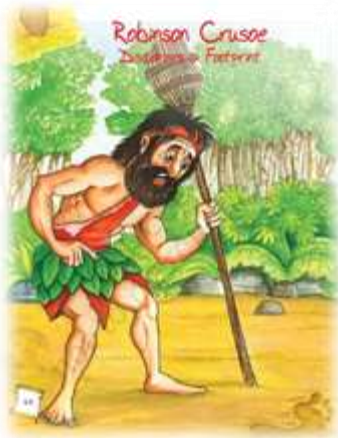


Robinson Crusoe (Discovers a Footprint)

Robinson Crusoe's ship had been destroyed by the sea. He had been alone for many years and **longed for company**. One day he **discovers** a **footprint** on the **sand**. Let's find out what he did then

One day, when I was going towards my boat, I was surprised to see the footprint of a man on the sand. I stood **amazed**! I listened; I **looked around** me; I could neither hear nor see anything. I went up higher to look down; I went up the **shore** and down the shore, but it was no good; I could find no other footprint but that one.



I went to it again to see if there were any more footprints and to tell if it had been my imagination. But I was not **mistaken**, for there was exactly the print of a foot — toes, heel, every part of a foot. I could not imagine how it came there. I stayed a long time thinking, but became more and more confused.



At last I returned home very **frightened**, looking behind me after every two or three steps, mistaking every **bush** and tree to be a man.

When I came to my **cave** (which I called my **castle**), I ran inside it, as if I was being **chased**. I do not remember whether I used the **ladder** or went in by the hole in the **rock**, which I called the door. I ran for **cover**, faster than any animal could run.



I did not sleep that night. The more I thought about what I had seen, the more afraid I became. I thought it could be one of the **savages** of the **mainland** who had **wandered** out to the sea, in a small boat.

Luckily I was not on shore at that time, but what if he had seen my boat! If he had seen the boat he would have realised that someone lived on the island and would soon return with others to kill and eat me.

And so I lay fearful for many days and prayed for protection. In doing so, I was much comforted and began going out to investigate. But even now as I went forward, I looked behind me frequently, because I was still very frightened.

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However, as I went about for two or three days and saw nothing I became a little **bolder**. I decided to go down to the shore again and **examine** the footprint once I decided to measure it with my own footmark.



more.

As I came closer to the footprint, I realised that it could not be my footprint because I had not come to this part of the beach since a long time. Secondly, as I placed my foot alongside that footprint, it **seemed** larger than my own.



had

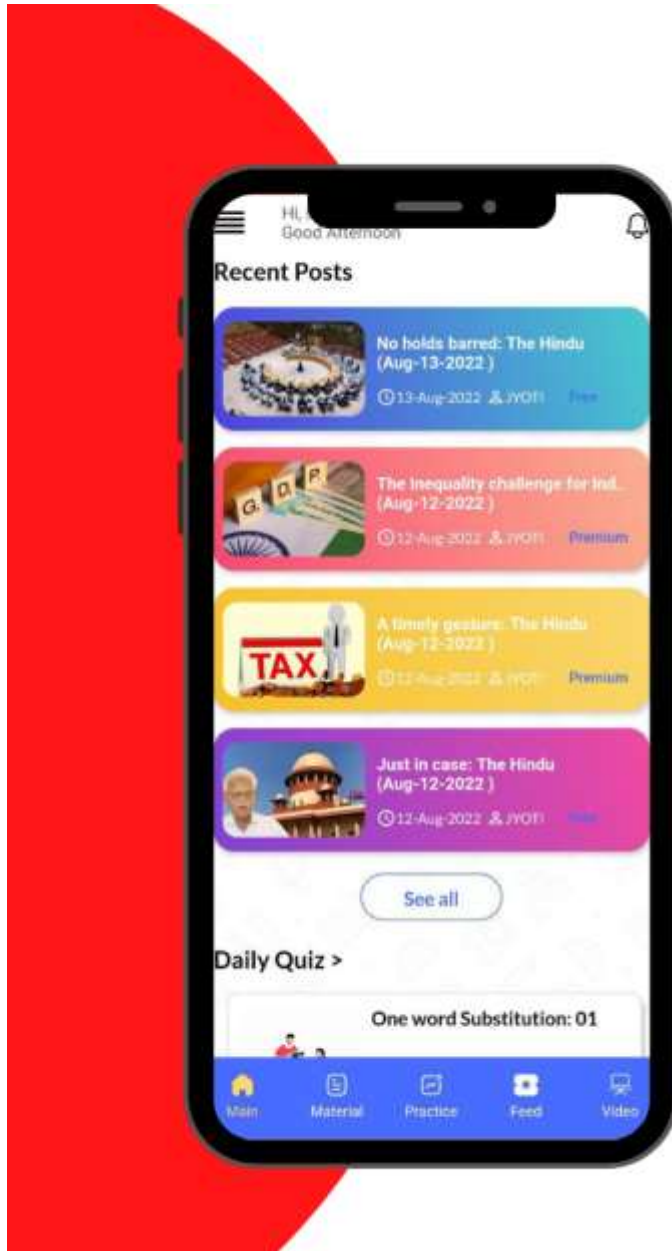
My fear returned! I went home again, believing that there was someone there. The **island** was **inhabited**!

Vocabulary

1. **Long (for)** (verb) – To have a very strong desire or yearning for someone or something. के लिये तरसना
2. **Company** (noun) – Companionship, friendship, camaraderie, esprit de corps. संग
3. **Discover** (verb) – Find, uncover, unearth, locate, detect खोजना
4. **Footprint** (noun) – step, track, footstep, footmark, impression पावों का निशान
5. **Sand** (noun) – A loose material consisting of grains of rock or coral रेत, बालू
6. **Amazed** (Adjective) – astonished, surprised, stunned, staggered, bewildered हैरान/ स्तब्ध
7. **Look around** (phrasal verb) – to go through a place in order to see what is there चारों ओर देखना
8. **Shore** (noun) – coast, beach, seashore, seaside, bank समुद्र तट
9. **Mistake** (verb) – be wrong about; get wrong गलत समझना
10. **At last** (phrase) – After a long wait, in the end अंत में
11. **Frightened** (adjective) – scared, afraid, terrified, fearful, worried भयभीत
12. **Bush** (noun) – shrub, woody plant झाड़ी
13. **Cave** (noun) – a large hole in the side of a hill, cliff, or mountain, or one that is underground गुफा
14. **Castle** (noun) – palace, fortress, fort, citadel, stronghold महल
15. **Chase** (verb) – follow, hunt, pursue, trail, track पीछा करना
16. **Ladder** (noun) – a piece of equipment used for climbing up and down, that consists of two vertical bars or pieces of rope joined to each other by a set of horizontal steps सीढ़ी
17. **Rock** (noun) – a mass of rock projecting above the earth's surface or out of the sea. चट्टान
18. **Cover** (noun) – shelter or protection in an unpleasant or dangerous situation आड़, छिपाव,
19. **Savage** (noun) – wild people in primitive state; extremely wild, or frightening जंगली
20. **Mainland** (noun) – large continuous extent of land मुख्य भूमि

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21. **Wander** (verb) – go from place to place without a definite route भटकना
22. **Bold** (adjective) – more confident; braver, courageous साहसी
23. **Examine** (verb) – Inspect, scrutinize, observe, study परखना
24. **Seem** (verb) – Appear, look लगना
25. **Island** (noun) – a piece of land that is surrounded by water द्वीप, टापू
26. **Inhabited** (adjective) – occupied, populated, settled, peopled, colonized, बसा हुआ



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