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Note for adults

Treasure Island was published in 1883. English has changed since that time. Help your child to deduce or look up the meanings of the old words and rewrite the sentences.

How words change over time

• Read this extract from *Treasure Island* and underline words that are not used today or used differently today.

Well, Mother was upstairs with Father; and I was laying the breakfast table against the captain's return, when the parlour door opened and a man stepped in on whom I had never set my eyes before. He was a pale tallowy creature, wanting two fingers of the left hand; and, though he wore a cutlass, he did not look much like a fighter.

• Complete the table:

Old-fashioned word	Meaning in the text	Modern equivalent word
parlour		
tallowy		
wanting		
cutlass		

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Rewrite these sentences in modern language:
The captain made no change to his dress but to buy stockings from a hawker.
He bade me find his friend.
I always had my eye open for seafaring men.
We made speed to get away.
Self-evaluation How hard I worked: