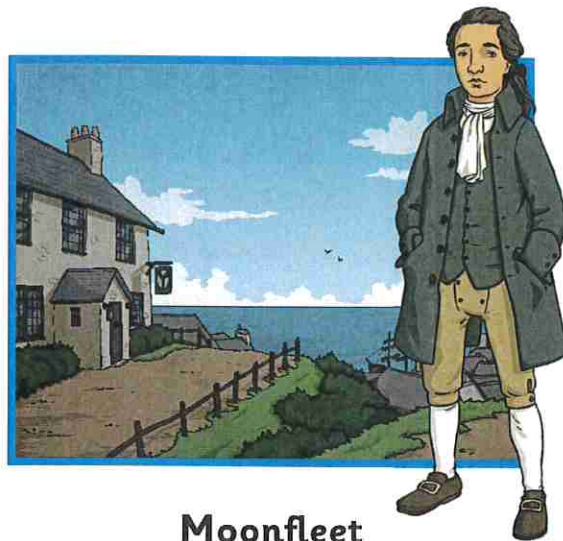


Reading Booklet

Year 6 Reading Assessment - Fiction



Moonfleet

Moonfleet

By John Meade Falkner

This text features two separate extracts from the novel *Moonfleet*, an adventure story about a group of smugglers, set in the eighteenth century on the south coast of England.

The village of Moonfleet lies half a mile from the sea on the right or west bank of the Fleet stream. This rivulet, which is so narrow as it passes the houses that I have known a good jumper clear it without a pole, broadens out into salt marshes below the village, and loses itself at last in a lake of brackish water. The lake is good for nothing except sea-fowl, herons, and oysters, and forms such a place as they call in the Indies a lagoon; being shut off from the open Channel by a monstrous great beach or dike of pebbles, of which I shall speak more hereafter. When I was a child I thought that this place was called Moonfleet, because on a still night, whether in summer, or in winter frosts, the Moon shone very brightly on the lagoon; but learned afterwards that 'twas but short for 'Mohune-fleet', from the Mohunes, a great family who were once lords of all these parts.

My name is John Trenchard, and I was fifteen years of age when this story begins. My father and mother had both been dead for years, and I boarded with my aunt, Miss Arnold, who was kind to me in her own fashion, but too strict and precise ever to make me love her.



'The Why Not?' was not the real name of the inn; it was properly the Mohune Arms. The Mohunes had once owned, as I have said, the whole of the village; but their fortunes fell, and with them fell the fortunes of Moonfleet. The ruins of their mansion showed grey on the hillside above the village; their almshouses stood half-way down the street, with the quadrangle deserted and overgrown; the Mohune image and superscription was on everything from the church to the inn, and everything that bore it was stamped also with the superscription of decay. And here it is necessary that I say a few words as to this family badge; for, as you will see, I was to bear it all my life, and shall carry its impress with me to the grave. The Mohune shield was plain white or silver, and bore nothing upon it except a great black 'Y'. I call it a 'Y', though the Reverend Mr. Glennie once explained to me that it was not a 'Y' at all, but what heralds call a *cross-pall*.



Cross-pall or no *cross-pall*, it looked for all the world like a black 'Y', with a broad arm ending in each of the top corners of the shield, and the tail coming down into the bottom. You might see that cognizance carved on the manor, and on the stonework and woodwork of the church, and on a score of houses in the village, and it hung on the signboard over the door of the inn. Everyone knew the Mohune 'Y' for miles around, and a former landlord having called the inn the '*Why Not?*' in jest, the name had stuck to it ever since.

More than once on winter evenings, when men were drinking in the '*Why Not?*', I had stood outside, and listened to them singing 'Ducky-stones', or 'Kegs bobbing One, Two, Three', or some of the other tunes that sailors sing in the west. Such songs had neither beginning nor ending, and very little sense to catch hold of in the middle. One man would crone the air, and the others would crone a solemn chorus, but there was little hard drinking, for Elzevir Block never got drunk himself, and did not like his guests to get drunk either. On singing nights the room grew hot, and the steam stood so thick on the glass inside that one could not see in; but at other times, when there was no company, I have peeped through the red curtains and watched Elzevir Block and Ratsey playing backgammon at the trestle-table by the fire. It was on the trestle-table that Block had afterwards laid out his son's dead body, and some said they had looked through the window at night and seen the father trying to wash the blood-matting out of the boy's yellow hair, and heard him groaning and talking to the lifeless clay as if it could understand. Anyhow, there had been little drinking in the inn since that time, for Block grew more and more silent and morose. He had never courted customers, and now he scowled on any that came, so that men looked on the '*Why Not?*' as a blighted spot, and went to drink at the Three Choughs at Ringstave.

My heart was in my mouth when Ratsey lifted the latch and led me into the inn parlour. It was a low sanded room with no light except a fire of seawood on the hearth, burning clear and lambent with blue salt flames. There were tables at each end of the room, and wooden-seated chairs round the walls, and at the trestle table by the chimney sat Elzevir Block smoking a long pipe and looking at the fire. He was a man of fifty, with a shock of grizzled hair, a broad but not unkindly face of regular features, bushy eyebrows, and the finest forehead that I ever saw. His frame was thick-set, and still immensely strong; indeed, the countryside was full of tales of his strange prowess or endurance. Blocks had been landlords at the '*Why Not?*' father and son for years, but Elzevir's mother came from the Low Countries, and that was how he got his outland name and could speak Dutch. Few men knew much of him, and folks often wondered how it was he kept the '*Why Not?*' on so little custom as went that way. Yet he never seemed to lack for money; and if people loved to tell stories of his strength, they would speak also of widows helped, and sick comforted with unknown gifts, and hint that some of them came from Elzevir Block for all he was so grim and silent.

He turned round and got up as we came in, and my fears led me to think that his face darkened when he saw me.



English

KS2

2016

Year 6 Reading Assessment Fiction Answer Booklet

First Name						
Middle Name						
Last Name						
Date of Birth	Day		Month		Year	
School Name						
DfE Number						

Questions 24 to 35 are about 'Moonfleet'

Look at the first extract.

24. Find and copy a word which means a shallow stretch of water, shut off from the sea.

1 mark



25. Explain why the village was really named Moonfleet and why the character thought it had been given the name, when he was a child.

2 marks



26. What had happened to John Trenchard's mother and father?

1 mark



27. Who did John live with?

1 mark



Total for this page

Look at the second extract.

28. What was the actual name of the pub and the name it was more commonly known by in the story? Explain each, giving evidence from the text to support your answer.

3 marks

Handwriting lines for question 28

29. What evidence is there to suggest that the Mohune family were at one time very wealthy and well-regarded in the village? Include evidence from both extracts to support your answer.

2 marks

Handwriting lines for question 29

Look at the paragraph beginning 'My heart was in my mouth...'

30. How do you think the character felt when using the phrase, 'My heart was in my mouth...?'

1 mark

Handwriting line for question 30

total for this page

31. How old was Elzevir Block?

1 mark

32. Which of these languages does the extract say Elzevir could speak? Tick **one**.

1 mark

German

Mohune

Dutch

French

Look at the lines '*...if people loved to tell stories of his strength, they would speak also of widows helped, and sick comforted with unknown gifts, and hint that some of them came from Elzevir Block*'

33. Identify two types of people helped with acts of kindness by Elzevir Block?

1 mark

34. In the second extract, the pub is described as having very few customers.

Find and **copy** evidence from more than one different paragraph to support this.

2 marks

1. _____

2. _____

total for this page

35. At the end of the extract, John Trenchard and Ratsey have just entered the pub. Do you think Elzevir Block would be pleased to see them? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

2 marks

Yes

No

Yes and No

End of questions about *'Moonfleet'*



END OF TEST

total for this page

English

KS2

2016

Year 6 Reading Assessment Marking Scheme for Fiction

question	answer	marks	notes
24.	Find and copy a word which means a shallow stretch of water, shut off from the sea.		
	lagoon	1	Content domain: 2a - give/explain the meaning of words in context. Award 1 mark for the correct answer indicated.
25.	Explain why the village was really named Moonfleet and why the character thought it had been given the name, when he was a child.		
	The village was named Moonfleet as it was short for 'Mohune-fleet', after the great family. The boy originally thought that name came from the moon always shining very brightly on the lagoon.	Up to 2	Content domain: 2f - identify/explain how information/narrative content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole. Award 1 mark for each part of the correct answer.
26.	What had happened to John Trenchard's mother and father?		
	They had both died/been dead for years	1	Content domain: 2b - retrieve and record information/identify key details from fiction and non-fiction. Award 1 mark for the correct answer indicated.
27.	Who did John live with?		
	With his aunt, Miss Arnold	1	Content domain: 2d - make inferences from the text/explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text. Award 1 mark for the correct answer indicated.
28.	What was the actual name of the pub and the name it was more commonly known by in the story? Explain each, giving evidence from the text to support your answer.		
	The pub was called the Mohune Arms, named after the family that owned the village. It was more commonly known as 'The Why Not?' because the family emblem on the sign over the door was a large black 'Y'. A former landlord had called it the 'Why Not?' and the name had stuck.	Up to 3	Content domain: 2d - make inferences from the text/explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text. Award 1 mark for both correct names. Award 2 marks for an additional simple explanation of either name. Award 3 marks for a full or extended explanation of both names and their origins.

29.	What evidence is there to suggest that the Mohune family were at one time very wealthy and well-regarded in the village? Include evidence from both extracts to support your answer		
	<p>From first extract:</p> <p>the village name of Moonfleet was named after the Mohune family</p> <p>the Mohunes were a 'great family who were once lords of all these parts'</p> <p>From second extract:</p> <p>the Mohunes had once owned the whole of the village</p> <p>they used to have a mansion on the hillside above the village</p> <p>the family had their own shield / badge / emblem</p> <p>everyone knew the Mohune 'Y' for miles around</p>	Up to 2	<p>Content domain: 2c - summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph.</p> <p>Award 1 mark for any evidence from the first extract and 1 mark for any evidence from the second extract, up to 2 marks in total.</p> <p>Evidence must be from both extracts to be awarded both marks.</p>
30.	Look at the paragraph beginning <i>'My heart was in my mouth..'</i> How do you think the character felt when using the phrase, <i>'My heart was in my mouth..'</i> ?		
	nervous / afraid / scared / worried	1	<p>Content domain: 2a - give / explain the meaning of words in context.</p> <p>Award 1 mark for an answer to convey feelings such as nervous / afraid / scared / worried.</p>
31.	How old was Elzevir Block?		
	(He was a man of) fifty	1	<p>Content domain: 2b - retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction.</p> <p>Award 1 mark for the correct answer indicated.</p> <p>Also accept 50 written in figures.</p>
32.	Which of these languages does the extract say Elzevir could speak? Tick one		
	Dutch	1	<p>Content domain: 2b - retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction.</p> <p>Award 1 mark for the correct option indicated.</p>
33.	Identify two types of people helped with acts of kindness by Elzevir Block?		
	widows (helped) and sick (comforted)	1	<p>Content domain: 2b - retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction.</p> <p>Award 1 mark for the correct answer indicated.</p>

<p>34.</p>	<p>In the second extract, the pub is described as having very few customers. Find and copy evidence from more than one different paragraph to support this.</p>
<p>Award one mark for any of the following: at other times... there was no company there had been little drinking in the inn since that time He had never courted customers and now he scowled on any that came [men] went to drink at the Three Choughs at Ringstave Award one mark for any of the following: folks often wondered how it was he kept the 'Why Not?' on so little custom Elzivir Block was sat alone in the pub when they arrived</p>	<p>Up to 2</p> <p>Content domain: 2c - summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph. Award 1 mark for each piece of evidence from each of the two lists. Evidence must be referenced from both lists to gain both marks.</p>
<p>35.</p>	<p>At the end of the extract, John Trenchard and Ratsey have just entered the pub. Do you think Elzivir Block would be pleased to see them? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.</p>
<p>Yes: Elzivir was alone and would therefore be pleased with the company of his friend, Ratsey Elzivir and Ratsey played backgammon together Elzivir's son had died, so he may be pleased to see 15-year old John No: Elzivir did not like new customers / did not court customers / scowled at customers John may remind Elzivir of his own son, who had died Elzivir's 'face darkened' when he saw John Elzivir had become grim / silent / morose</p>	<p>Up to 2</p> <p>Content domain: 2e - predict what might happen from details stated and implied. Award 1 mark for each relevant response, up to a total of 2 marks. Evidence must be used from the text to achieve both marks.</p>
<p>Total 18</p>	