

Level 6-10
The Count of Monte Cristo

Workbook

Teacher's Guide and Answer Key

Teacher's Guide

A. Summary

1. Book Summary

Edmond Dantes is a Frenchman who worked on a ship. After the captain died, the ship's owner chose Dantes as the new captain. However, another man named Danglars wanted the job. He plotted with his friend Caderousse to get rid of Dantes. Danglars found out that Dantes had a letter for someone in Paris. He thought it was from Napoleon for his friends. Danglars wrote to the king telling him about Dantes and Napoleon's letter. Dantes was arrested and sent to the Château d'If. It was a prison from which men never returned.

In the prison, Dantes lost all hope until he met a fellow prisoner named Faria. The two tried unsuccessfully to escape. Then Faria showed Dantes a treasure map he had. Dantes believed that Danglars and Caderousse had something to do with his arrest, so he wanted revenge when he escaped. Then Faria died, and Dantes hid in the bag for his body. The guards threw the bag with him in it into the sea, where he was picked up by a ship.

Dantes found the treasure on the island of Monte Cristo and became rich. He returned to Marseilles and introduced himself as the Count of Monte Cristo. He now had a chance to get revenge, but he decided that he did not want it anymore.

2. Chapter Summary

► Chapter 1

Edmond Dantes, a young Frenchman, worked on the ship *Pharaoh*. When the captain died, a man on the ship, Danglars, wanted his job, but the ship's owner, Mr. Morrel, preferred Dantes. Danglars told Morrel that Dantes had wasted their time at Elba. Dantes later explained to Morrel that before dying the captain had asked him to deliver a letter for Marshal Bertrand at Elba. Dantes also revealed that he had met Napoleon there. Morrel warned him not to tell anyone about the letter or about meeting Napoleon or he could get in trouble. Dantes asked for leave to marry his fiancée, Mercedes. Morrel agreed, and he told Dantes about making him the ship's captain. Dantes went home happily, but he found his father unwell and there was no food or drink in the house. His father said he had spent the money Dantes gave him on his friend Caderousse. Just then, Caderousse came. He had heard from his friend Danglars that Dantes might be made captain.

► Chapter 2

Danglars found out that Dantes would have his wedding soon and that he was going to Paris to deliver something for the former ship's captain. Danglars guessed that it was a secret letter. That gave him an idea. He wrote a letter to the king saying that Dantes had a letter from Napoleon to Napoleon's supporters in Paris. The next day, at his wedding, Dantes was arrested by soldiers.

► Chapter 3

The soldiers took Dantes to the Château d'If on an island. Dantes knew that it was a prison from which men never returned. There Dantes was put in a dark room alone. When he asked to see the prison governor, the guard just laughed. A few days later, Dantes was moved to a dark underground room. After some time, Dantes gave up hope of being freed. One night, he heard a sound in the wall and thought someone was trying to escape. So he began to make a hole in the floor.

► Chapter 4

Every night after dinner, Dantes would dig in his floor using a broken piece from his mug. He could also hear someone else digging. One night, a small old man broke through the hole in the floor and climbed into Dantes's cell. Dantes was happy to see another person. After that, they would meet every night. The old man, Faria, thought that Danglars and Caderousse might have caused Dantes to go to prison, and after that Dantes thought of revenge all the time. Faria was sick, and he told Dantes that he was going to die soon.

► Chapter 5

Faria showed Dantes a map that gave the location of some treasure hidden on the island of Monte Cristo. The days passed, and Dantes thought only of revenge, while Faria thought only of escape. Then Faria died. The next morning, Dantes heard the guards in Faria's cell talking about burying him. An idea came to Dantes. He moved Faria's body to his cell and hid in the bag that Faria was to be buried in. The guards took the bag with Dantes in it out of the cell and dropped it into the sea.

► Chapter 6

Dantes used the piece of mug he had with him to free himself. After swimming for hours, he was picked up by a ship. A man named Jacopo saved him just as he was about to drown. The captain let Dantes stay on the ship if he would work. Dantes was getting closer to revenge. He stayed on the ship and waited for a chance to go to Monte Cristo to get the treasure. Then one day, the captain said they were sailing to Monte Cristo, where he was to meet someone.

► Chapter 7

At Monte Cristo, Dantes pretended to hurt his leg badly. He asked the captain to leave him on the island with some food and an ax. His friend Jacopo offered to stay with him, but Dantes wanted to be alone. After the ship sailed, Dantes went in search of the treasure. Under a large rock, he found some steps that went down into an underground room. In the room was a big wooden chest full of treasure.

► Chapter 8

Dantes left with some of the treasure when the ship came back for him. In Genoa, he left the ship and took Jacopo with him. After selling the jewels, he bought Jacopo a ship and asked him to go to Marseilles and find out about some people. He then took a boat to Monte Cristo to get the remaining treasure before sailing to Marseilles. There, he called himself the Count of Monte Cristo. Jacopo had found out for him that his father was dead and Danglars had left France after losing the fortune he had made. Caderousse was very poor, and Mercedes had married badly and had a son named Albert. Dantes met Albert, now a young man, and they went to see his mother. Mercedes recognized Dantes right away. She decided to leave her husband, but she would not go with Dantes. It was too late for them to be together. Dantes decided he did not want revenge anymore. He told his friend Jacopo that no one knew what tomorrow would bring and that they could only wait and hope.

B. Background and Themes

- ★ **Love:** Dantes and Mercedes still loved each other after many years apart.
- ★ **Revenge:** It was the one consuming fire in the heart of Dantes until he returned home.
- ★ **Ambition:** Danglars was willing to send a man to prison for the rest of his life in order to get what he wanted: to be the captain of the *Pharaoh*.
- ★ **Cruelty:** Prisoners in Château d'If were locked up in darkness and isolation, a condition that could make them go crazy.
- ★ **Hope:** Though he had no real reason to hope, that was what kept Faria going until he died.

Answer Key

Part A Story Focus

Before You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Introduction

1. Alexandre Dumas wrote it.
2. He wrote exciting historical adventure stories.
3. His most famous story was *The Three Musketeers*.

► Characters

1. Edmond Dantes: wants revenge, smart,
2. Danglars: cruel, ambitious
3. Caderousse: bad, dishonest
4. Mercedes: loving, faithful
5. Faria: hopeful, wise
6. Jacopo: helpful, good

While You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Chapter 1

A. Preview Questions

1. They are standing near a ship.
2. I think they are talking about the ship.
3. It is from France.

B. Review Questions

1. He was thinking of making Dantes the captain of the ship.
2. Danglars wanted that job.
3. He brought a letter.

► Chapter 2

A. Preview Questions

1. It is at a wedding.
2. Dantes has been arrested.
3. I think they will take him to prison.

B. Review Questions

1. Captain Leclerc asked him to deliver something.
2. He thought Dantes was taking a secret letter.
3. He was arrested.

► Chapter 3

A. Preview Questions

1. It is a prison.
2. I think he will have to stay there forever.
3. Alcatraz in California is like this.

B. Review Questions

1. It took him to a prison called Château d'If.
2. The guard laughed.
3. He started digging a hole in the floor of his room, and that gave him hope.

► **Chapter 4**

A. Preview Questions

1. He came from another cell.
2. He dug a hole.
3. I think it is medicine.

B. Review Questions

1. He had hoped to find a way out of the prison, not just another cell.
2. He only thought about revenge.
3. He said he was going to die soon.

► **Chapter 5**

A. Preview Questions

1. Faria has died.
2. I think he feels very sad and lonely.
3. I think Dantes will escape.

B. Review Questions

1. He showed him a treasure map.
2. He died.
3. He got inside the bag for Faria's body.

► **Chapter 6**

A. Preview Questions

1. He is pulling Dantes from the water.
2. He will take him to the ship.
3. I think Dantes will go to find the treasure.

B. Review Questions

1. He used the piece of broken mug to cut the bag.
2. Jacopo pulled him up.
3. They were meeting at Monte Cristo.

► Chapter 7

A. Preview Questions

1. He is at Monte Cristo.
2. He is holding some treasure.
3. He will use it to get revenge on Danglars and Caderousse.

B. Review Questions

1. He pretended to fall and hurt his leg.
2. He sailed off without Dantes.
3. He found the treasure.

► Chapter 8

Preview Questions

1. He is back in France.
2. She is Mercedes.
3. I think they will be together again.

B. Review Questions

1. He bought him a ship.
2. She married a very bad man.
3. He decided he did not want revenge anymore.

Mini Quiz

- a. When in Rome, do as the Romans do.
→ You should try to follow the customs of the country you are in.
- b. While there's life, there's hope.
→ We should never give up hoping for better times or better day even when things look very bad at present.
- c. You can't teach an old dog new tricks.
→ Old people have a hard time changing their habits.

After You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Pattern Practice

4. A: I'm too old to learn to use the computer.

B: No one is ever too old for that!

5. A: He is too big to ride the baby swing.

B: Tell him to get off of it.

► Challenge

1. Suddenly, an officer and four soldiers ran in.

2. Dantes quickly found the medicine and poured a little into Faria's mouth.

3. Dantes pulled Faria's body out of the bag.

4. When Albert took Dantes to see his mother, Mercedes recognized the Count right away.

Part B Skill Focus

Vocabulary Preview

A.

- | | |
|-------------|------------|
| 1. owner | 2. voyage |
| 3. wedding | 4. secret |
| 5. mistakes | 6. prison |
| 7. escape | 8. revenge |

B.

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| 1. cell | 2. cloth |
| 3. couple | 4. guard |
| 5. lock | 6. shoulder |
| 7. news | |

Reading Comprehension

► Beginning: Chapters 1–3

A.

1. F 2. T 3. T 4. F 5. T

B.

1. He is Morrel.
2. He is the owner of Pharaoh.
3. He owns a ship.
4. He needs a captain.

C.

1. d 2. b 3. b 4. a 5. c 6. d

► Middle: Chapters 4–5

A.

1. T 2. T 3. F 4. F 5. F

B.

1. Dantes
2. Faria
3. A guard
4. Dantes

C.

1. d 2. b 3. c 4. a 5. c 6. a

► End: Chapters 6–8

A.

1. T 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. F

B.

a → c → b → d

C.

1. c 2. a 3. c 4. b 5. c 6. d

Think and Write

Dantes	Both	Danglars
ship owner's choice for captain	worked on a ship wanted to be captain	friend of Caderousse wrote a letter about a letter
went to prison	knew about the letter from Elba	got someone in trouble
wanted revenge		became rich and lost it all
found treasure		

Vocabulary Review

1. The captain of the ship **died** during the voyage.
2. Morrel told Dantes he would get **in** trouble if he talked about Napoleon.
3. Danglars **told** Caderousse that Dantes was not captain yet.
4. At Dantes's wedding, soldiers **came** and arrested him.
5. Dantes was put in a dark underground room where he could **go** crazy.
6. Dantes began to have hope when he started trying to **escape**.
7. The only thing **that** Dantes thought about in prison was revenge.
8. On the island of Monte Cristo, Dantes **found** the treasure.
9. Dantes bought a ship for Jacopo and asked him **to** sail to Marseilles.
10. Dantes thought about the wisdom the people around him had **given** him.

Summary

A.

3	2
4	1

B.

(Answers may vary.)

1. Dantes let the soldiers lead him to the door.
2. Faria told Dantes about a hidden bottle of medicine.
3. In the room, Dantes found a big wooden chest.
4. Mercedes and Morrel had worked for many years to get Dantes out of prison.

Book Report

Story 1. voyage 2. wedding 3. prison 4. revenge 5. recognized