

# Captain Henry Morgan

*Find and circle these words in the story below, then use them to answer the riddle on the next page!*

Cruelty	Gallant	Band
Handful	Cuba	Crew
Silver	Plunder	Vast

Now we come to the greatest of all the buccaneers. Even to this day his name is a charm to call up his deeds of daring, his courage, his cruelty, and his hunger for gold! Captain Henry Morgan, the bold Welshman, who brought buccaneering to the height of its glory.

The first attempt that Captain Henry Morgan ever made against any town in the Spanish Indies was a bold attack on the city of Puerto del Principe on the island of Cuba, with just a handful of men.

The pirates returned to their boats with stolen treasure, careless of the whole island of Cuba. Not only did they make good their escape, but they brought away with them a large amount of treasure, which included three hundred thousand pieces of silver, plus five hundred cattle. But when it came to divide all this wealth, lo! there were only fifty thousand pieces of silver to be found. What had become of the rest no man could tell but Captain Henry Morgan himself. Honesty among thieves was never his thing.

Rude and dishonest as Captain Morgan was, he seemed to have had a wonderful power for persuading the wild pirates of his crew to follow him without question. In spite of the vast sum of money that he had apparently stolen from them, new recruits poured in to work with him, until his band was larger and better prepared than ever.

Next they decided to plunder Porto Bello. So, that city's doom was sealed. The town was defended by two strong castles and guarded by the most gallant soldiers. But strong castles and gallant soldiers mattered as much as a grain of sand to buccaneers bent on getting gold. The pirates marched to the city. They came before the castle and boldly demanded its surrender. It was refused. In response Morgan threatened that no quarter would be given, meaning no one would be safe! Still, surrender was refused.

**What happens next? You decide!**



# Captain Henry Morgan

Finish this pirate tale!

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Write down the words in the order that they first appear in the story. Then use the circled letters to reveal the answer to the riddle!

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How long is a pirate's plank?

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