

The Life of Mrs. Robert Louis Stevenson

by Nellie Van de Grift Sanchez [edited]

While she waited as patiently as might be in the little country town, there were strenuous times in the burning city, but, as telegraph wires were all down and no mails were going out, she was [1] compel and obliged to remain in suspense until three days later, when the fire was subdued and Mr. Field was able to get back to her with the news that her family were all safe and her house unharmed. The story of the rescue of her house from the flames has been curiously [2] contorted by persons who have attempted to write about it without knowing the facts. The real saviors of Mrs. [3] Stevensons' house were her nephews and Mr. Field, and even they might have lost the day had it not been for a providential wind that blew in strongly from the sea against the advancing wall of flame. For three days and nights they looked down from their high post upon the raging furnace below and anxiously watched the progress of the fire as it leaped from street to street in its mad race up the hill, and when at last the two houses and a large wooden reservoir immediately opposite went roaring up all hope seemed gone. In the end, [4]. In the garden, there was a small cement pool, the home of a tiny fish answering to the name of Jack.

1. Which option is the most grammatically correct?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. compel and obliging
 - C. compelling and obligatory
 - D. compelled and obliged
2. Which word works best in this context?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. presumed
 - C. fabricated
 - D. disbelieved
3. Which option is the most grammatically correct?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. Stevensons's
 - C. Stevenson's
 - D. Stevensons
4. Which phrase best supports this paragraph?
 - A. nothing could divert the flames from their path of destruction
 - B. they could only marvel at how quickly a city could vanish
 - C. it was through a mere trifle that the tide of fortune was turned in their favor
 - D. no change occurred, and the fire continued to blaze

When the water in the pool was [5] slopped over by the earthquake poor Jack was tossed some yards away upon the grass, whence he was rescued, alive and wriggling, and restored to his own element, only to be killed later by some thoughtless refugee who washed his hands in the water with soap. The half bucket or so of water remaining in the pool helped to save the day, for the fire fighters dipped rugs and sacks in it, and, climbing to the flat roof, took turns in [6] crushing through the scorching heat to beat the cornices when they began to smoke.

[7] Meanwhile, the escape was so narrow that at times it seemed hopeless, and the rescuers took the precaution to dig a hole in the garden and bury the silverware, the St. Gaudens plaque, and other valuables.

5. Which option is the most grammatically correct?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. slop
 - C. slopping
 - D. sloppy
6. Which word works best in this context?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. dashing
 - C. overthrowing
 - D. mastering
7. Which option provides the most logical transition?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. Eventually
 - C. Therefore
 - D. Even so

When the three days' conflagration had finally worn itself out and the tired and smoke-begrimed fighters could take account, [8] they discovered that the house, along with its contents, had been secure, except for a huge hole in the roof where the earthquake had thrown down a large heavy chimney, piling up the bricks on the bed in the guest-chamber, fortunately not occupied at the time. But the outlook was ghastly, for the house stood high on its clean-swept hill like a lonely outpost in a great waste of cinders, half-fallen chimneys, and sagging walls. In two weeks' time, while they still smoked, the ruins took on a strangely old look, and it was like standing in the midst of the excavations of an ancient city. Around the solitary house on the hill the wind howled [9] , making a mournful moaning sound through the broken network of wires that hung everywhere in the streets.

Homeless refugees, running through the streets like wild creatures driven before a prairie fire, came pouring past, and some stopped to build their lean-to shacks of pieces of board and sacking against the sheltering wall of the house. Blankets and other things were passed out to keep them warm, and when they finally went their way the blankets went with them, [10] although Mrs. Stevenson was glad that they should have them and said she would have done the same had she been in [11] my case.

8. Which option is the most concise and precise?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. they found that the house, along with everything inside, was miraculously safe
 - C. they found that the house and all its belongings had survived untouched
 - D. they found the house and its contents safe
9. Which option is the most grammatically correct?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. making a mournful moaning sound through the broken network of wires that hung everywhere in the streets
 - C. : making a mournful moaning sound through the broken network of wires that hung everywhere in the streets
 - D. ; making a mournful moaning sound through the broken network of wires that hung everywhere in the streets
10. Which word works best in this context?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. therefore
 - C. but
 - D. conversely
11. Which option is the most grammatically correct?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. their
 - C. our
 - D. her

Meteorology: The Science of the Atmosphere [edited]

by Charles Fitzhugh Talman

[12] The dust of which we have to speak in the present chapter embraces all small particles of solid matter found anywhere; or at any time, in the earth's atmosphere. Particular kinds of dust have, of course, their special names. Soot, the visible part of smoke, is a form of dust that has played a very [13] conspicuous part in human affairs; hence the separate mention of smoke in the heading of this chapter.

12. Which option is the most grammatically correct?

A. NO CHANGE

B. The dust of which we have to speak in the present chapter embraces all small particles of solid matter: found anywhere, or at any time, in the earth's atmosphere.

C. The dust of which we have to speak in the present chapter embraces all small particles of solid matter found anywhere or at any time, in the earth's atmosphere.

D. The dust of which we have to speak in the present chapter embraces all small particles of solid matter found anywhere, or at any time, in the earth's atmosphere.

13. Which word works best in this context?

A. NO CHANGE

B. striking

C. unobtrusive

D. unusual

While there are many agencies that help to charge the atmosphere with dust, the most important of them all is the wind. Let us see what happens when the wind blows over the surface of a dusty road, for example. If the air flowed in a smooth horizontal stream over such a surface, its friction would drag the dust along on the ground, but would not lift it. Such surface drifting, due to the horizontal component of the wind's motion, does, of course, occur, and its effects are strikingly visible in the shifting dunes that often form over a broad surface of sand or snow. [14] The movement of these dunes clearly illustrates how wind-driven drifting reshapes the landscape over time. All winds near the earth's surface are, however, full of waves and eddies, and in many cases, as over a stretch of strongly heated soil, there are strong updrafts, sometimes extending to a great height in the atmosphere. All kinds of dust are heavier than air, [15] yet, contrary to popular belief, never truly "float" in the atmosphere. Dust may enter the atmosphere at high levels, through the disintegration of meteors, or it may be spouted up by volcanoes, but dust blown up from the [16] earths surface rises only because the air is rising with it; and, in still air, all dust sinks more or less rapidly toward the ground. The rate of its fall depends upon its specific gravity, and upon the size and shape of the dust particles. [17] Even though there are other factors to consider, the heaviest particles fall the fastest. Exceedingly fine dust, even without upward air movements to support it, requires months or even years to fall to the ground from the higher levels of the atmosphere.

14. The author is considering deleting the underlined sentence. Should the sentence be kept or deleted?
 - A. Deleted, the sentence is redundant.
 - B. Deleted, the sentence introduces new information in the paragraph.
 - C. Kept, the sentence provides supporting information to the previous sentence.
 - D. Kept, the sentence provides a key definition needed to understand the paragraph.
15. Which word works best in this context?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. and
 - C. nor
 - D. because
16. Which option is the most grammatically correct?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. earths's
 - C. earth's
 - D. earths'
17. Which sentence best supports this paragraph?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. When one particle starts falling, the gravity of the surface shifts.
 - C. The particles are dependent on each other's mass to fall.
 - D. Other things being equal, the finest particles fall most slowly.

Upward movements in the air suffice to carry millions of tons of dust [18] around every year, and horizontal air currents carry the same dust far and wide over the earth. The transportation of soil by the wind leads to some results of remarkable interest, practical as well as scientific. [19] In the first place, far-reaching changes in topography, are brought about, by this process. [20] 1. Thus, in China vast areas are covered to a depth of hundreds or even thousands of feet with a fine yellowish earth, called “loess.” 2. It is believed to have been blown thither by the winds from the deserts of Central Asia. 3. Less extensive deposits of this wind-borne material are found in many other parts of the world, including the Mississippi Valley. 4. Another effect of wind transportation is the mixing of soils. There is a constant interchange of soil material between different regions, so that the composition of the soil [21] in a particular farm, [22] as a result, is not the same now that it was a few years ago or that it will be a few years hence. Lastly, the presence of dust in the atmosphere, whether derived from the soil or otherwise, has various interesting and important effects upon the heat and light we receive from the sun and modifies, in numerous ways, the conditions of human life upon [23] your planet.

18. Which word works best in this context?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. forward
 - C. backward
 - D. aloft
19. Which option is the most grammatically correct?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. In the first place, far-reaching changes in topography are brought about by this process.
 - C. In the first place far-reaching changes in topography, are brought about by this process.
 - D. In the first place far-reaching changes, in topography, are brought about by this process.
20. To make the paragraph more logical, sentence 4 should be placed
 - A. where it is now.
 - B. before sentence 1.
 - C. before sentence 2.
 - D. before sentence 3.
21. Which word works best in this context?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. between
 - C. on
 - D. at
22. Which word works best in this context?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. conversely
 - C. for instance
 - D. additionally
23. Which word works best in this context?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. our
 - C. their
 - D. my

Youth [edited]

by Randolph S. Bourne

These are the questions and challenges that the youth puts [24] by his elders, and it is their shifty [25] evasioning and quibblings that confound and dishearten him. He becomes intolerant, and can see all classes in no other light than that of accomplices in a great crime. If they only knew! Swept along himself in an irrationality of energy, he does not see the small part that reason [26] play in the intricate social life, and only gradually does he come to view life as a “various and splendid disorder of forces,” and [27] discharge weak human nature from some of its heavy responsibility. [28] However, this insight brings him to appreciate and almost to reverence the forces of science and conscious social progress that are grappling with that disorder and seeking to tame [29] you.

24. Which word works best in this context?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. to
 - C. on
 - D. in
25. Which option is the most grammatically correct?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. evasion and quibbling
 - C. evasion and quibbles
 - D. evasions and quibblings
26. Which option is the most grammatically correct?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. is playing
 - C. plays
 - D. played
27. Which word works best in this context?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. release
 - C. exonerate
 - D. announce
28. Which word works best in this context?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. In addition
 - C. Similarly
 - D. Therefore
29. Which option is the most grammatically correct?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. him
 - C. them
 - D. it

Youth is the leaven that keeps all these questioning, testing attitudes fermenting in the world. If it were not for this troublesome activity of youth, with its hatred of sophisms and glosses, its insistence on things as they are, society would die from sheer decay. It is the policy of the older generation, as it gets adjusted to the world to hide away the unpleasant things where it can, [30] so preserve a conspiracy of silence and an elaborate pretense that they do not exist. But meanwhile, the sores go on festering just the same. Youth is the [31] drastic antiseptic. It will not let its elders cry peace, where there is no peace. Its fierce sarcasms keep issues alive in the world until they are settled right. It drags skeletons from closets and insists that they be explained. No wonder the older generation fears and distrusts the younger. Youth is the avenging Nemesis on its trail. “It is young men who provide the logic, decision, and enthusiasm necessary to relieve society of the crushing burden that each generation seeks to roll upon the shoulders of the next.”

30. Which word works best in this context?

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. yet
- C. and
- D. for

31. Which word works best in this context?

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. strict
- C. tough
- D. bleak

[32] Elders see the present as flawed, but they believe the future holds the potential for renewal; conversely, youth is pessimistic toward the present and gloriously hopeful for the future. And it is this hope which is the lever of progress,—one might say, the only lever of progress. The lack of confidence which the ruling generation feels in the future leads to that distrust of the machinery of social reform and social organization, or the use of means for ends, which is so characteristic of it today. Youth is disgusted with such sentimentality. It can never understand that curious paralysis which seizes upon its elders in the face of urgent social innovations; that refusal to make use of a perfectly definite programme or administrative scheme which has worked elsewhere. Youth concludes that its elders discountenance the machinery, the means, because they do not really believe in the end, and adds another count to the indictment.

32. Which option provides the most logical introduction?

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. Our elders are always optimistic in their views of the present, pessimistic in their views of the future
- C. Older generations tend to see both the present and the future in a positive light
- D. Elders often view the present as chaotic but believe the future will eventually bring stability

[33] Youth attitude is really the scientific attitude. Do not be afraid to make experiments, it says. You cannot tell how anything will work until you have tried it. Suppose science [34] released its interests to those things that have been tried and tested in the world, how far should we get? [35] It is possible indeed that your experiments may produce by accident a social explosion: but we do not give up chemistry because occasionally a wrong mixture of chemicals blows up a scientist in a laboratory or medical research because an investigator contracts the disease he is fighting.

33. Which option is the most grammatically correct?

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. Youths
- C. Youth's
- D. Youths'

34. Which word works best in this context?

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. pointed
- C. checked
- D. confined

35. Which option is the most grammatically correct?

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. It is possible indeed that your experiments may produce by accident a social explosion, but we do not give up chemistry because occasionally a wrong mixture of chemicals blows up a scientist in a laboratory; or medical research because an investigator contracts the disease he is fighting.
- C. It is possible indeed that your experiments may produce by accident a social explosion; but we do not give up chemistry because occasionally a wrong mixture of chemicals blows up a scientist in a laboratory or medical research because an investigator contracts the disease he is fighting.
- D. It is possible indeed that your experiments may produce by accident a social explosion, but we do not give up chemistry because occasionally a wrong mixture of chemicals blows up a scientist in a laboratory, or medical research because an investigator contracts the disease he is fighting.

END of Module 1