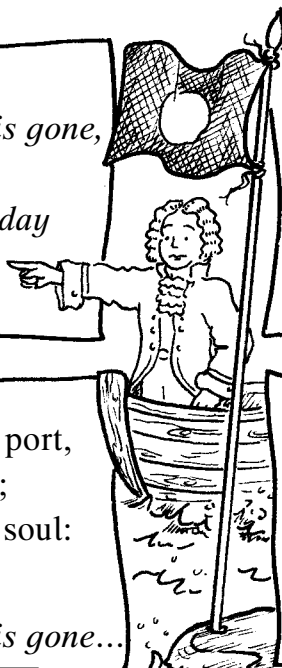


# A ballad

This **ballad** is about Bonnie Prince Charlie.

## Sing Me a Song

*Sing me a song of a lad that is gone,  
Say, could that lad be I?  
Merry of soul he sailed on a day  
Over the sea to Skye.*



Give me again all that was there,  
Give me the sun that shone!  
Give me the eyes, give me the soul,  
Give me the lad that's gone!  
*Sing me a song of a lad that is gone...*

Mull was astern, Rum on the port,  
Eigg on the starboard bow;  
Glory of youth glowed in his soul:  
Where is that glory now?  
*Sing me a song of a lad that is gone...*

Billow and breeze, islands and seas,  
Mountains of rain and sun,  
All that was good, all that was fair,  
All that was me is gone.

Robert Louis Stevenson

Use a dictionary.

• What does the ballad tell you? \_\_\_\_\_

• What kind of atmosphere does this ballad have? \_\_\_\_\_

• Which words make you think this? \_\_\_\_\_

• What does the poet feel about Bonnie Prince Charlie? \_\_\_\_\_

• Which words tell you this? \_\_\_\_\_



• List four people or events from history you could write about in a ballad.

• Write a sentence to explain why you have chosen each person or event.

**Teachers' note** Explain that a ballad is a song/poem with a simple, regular, repeated rhythm. There are many kinds of ballad, including stories, like this one. Some, but not all, have a chorus. Read the ballad aloud – you could even try singing it with the children. Tell the story of Bonnie Prince Charlie (see Introduction page 7).

Developing Literacy  
Poetry Year 5  
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