**A MANUSCRIPT DOCUMENT SENT TO SCOTLAND YARD BY THE MASTER OF THE EMMA JANE FISHING TRAWLER**

1. Who wrote the manuscript? When the writer says he “was, or could be, an artist in crime,” what does he mean (287)? How can a criminal be an artist?
2. How did the writer gather information about each of the guests who stayed on Soldier Island? What did he find out about each guest?
3. What part did Morris play in the writer’s plan, and why?
4. According to the writer, why are Anthony Marston and Mrs. Rodgers the first to die? Why did the rest of the deaths on Soldier Island occur in the order they did?
5. Who did the writer enlist as his unwitting “ally” when he enacted his plan? How did the ally and the writer fool the others? How did the writer betray the ally? How does this trickery and betrayal relate to the soldier poem?
6. Why did the writer call Vera Claythorne’s death a “psychological experiment” (298)? What hypothesis do you think he made about the outcome of the experiment? Was his hypothesis right?
7. The writer states that his main ambition was “to *invent* a murder mystery that no one could solve” (298). What are the final steps he takes to ensure that an examination of the murder scene will not be able to explain who committed the murders? What does he do that allows his criminal genius to eventually be recognized?
8. What three clues does the writer say *might* allow the police to solve the case of the Soldier Island murders?