

## Words and their meanings in ST Coleridge's "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner"

- 1 **Mariner** - sailor
- 2 **glittering** - shining brightly, with flashing points of light
- 3 **kin** - members of your family
- 4 **quoth** - said
- 5 **loon** - a mad person
- 6 **Eftsoons** - at once
- 7 **kirk** - church

- 8 **bassoon** - a musical instrument
- 9 **minstrelsy** - singers and musicians
- 10 **tyrannous** - cruel, severe, harsh
- 11 **prow** - the front part of a ship
- 12 **pursued** - chased
- 13 **foe** - enemy
- 14 **emerald** - a precious stone, which is clear and bright green

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| 15 <b>drifts</b> - floating ice  | 22 <b>shroud</b> - sail  |
| 16 <b>clifts</b> - steep sides of the ice-bergs                              | 23 <b>perched</b> - sat on the edge of something                             |
| 17 <b>sheen</b> - a smooth and gentle brightness on the surface of something | 24 <b>vespers nine</b> - a fixed time every day (the evening church service) |
| 18 <b>ken</b> - see  | 25 <b>plague</b> - to bother, trouble  |
| 19 <b>swound</b> - a fainting fit  | 26 <b>crossbow</b> - a very powerful bow and arrow, with a trigger           |
| 20 <b>helmsman</b> - the person steering the ship                            |  |
| 21 <b>hollo</b> - shout, call  |  |

## The archaic words from "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" Part 1 and their meanings:

1. 'quoth' - Said or spoke.
2. 'lo!' - Look!
3. 'eftsoons' - Soon afterward.
4. 'Thee' - You.
5. 'thy' - Your.
6. 'may'st' - May you/mayst (archaic second-person singular form of 'may').
7. 'hath' - Has.
8. 'ne'er' - Never.
9. 'aye' - Always.
10. 'whiles' - While.

11. 'thorough' - Through.
12. 'perched' - Perched/perchèd (archaic past tense of 'perch,' meaning to alight or settle).
13. 'hollo' - Hollo/holloa (a cry or shout, often used to attract attention).
14. 'vespers' - Evening prayers or sunset.
15. 'theit' - There seems to be a typo in the question, and it should be 'their.'
16. 'fiends' - Evil spirits or demons.
17. 'look'st' - Look'st (archaic second-person singular form of 'look,' meaning you look).
18. 'God save thee' - A wish for God's protection or blessing.
19. 'quothe' - He said.

The use of archaic vocabulary within the poem bestows upon it a discernible and lyrical essence, thereby mirroring the linguistic and stylistic conventions prevalent during the era in which Samuel Taylor Coleridge penned his work.

## **Sources**

<https://www.cbseenglish.org/home/cbse-class-10/the-rime-of-the-ancient-mariner-part-1>