



Page No: 116

5. Using the words given above rewrite Part 1 of the poem in your own words. The first stanza has been done as an example:

It is an ancient Mariner,  
And he stoppeth one of three.

'By thy long grey beard and glittering eye,  
Now wherefore stopp'st thou me?

An old sailor stopped one of the three people passing by, who asked: "Old man, with your long grey beard and glittering eye, why are you stopping me?"

Answer:

An old sailor stopped one of the three people passing by, who asked: "Old man, with your long grey beard and glittering eye, why are you stopping me? The bridegroom's doors are open and I am one of the next family members. The guests have arrived, the feast is set. Can't you hear the merriment?"

The sailor held him with his skinny hand and said: "There was a ship." The wedding guest, disgustingly said, "Let go of me, you lunatic person," and dropped his hand.

However, the sailor captivated his attention with his glittering eye; the wedding guest stood still. He was all ears to the old sailor, just like a three years old child, because now the mariner had his will.

The wedding guest was left with no choice but to listen to the ancient sailor. Thus began the narration of the ancient mariner. "There was a loud cheer on board, and the harbor has clear, for the sun to rise above the church, the hill, the lighthouse.

The sun came up upon the left and shone bright all day, and set on the right, going down the sea. The sun rose higher and higher everyday till it touched the mast on noon."

The Wedding Guest beat his breast in impatience because he could hear the loud musical instrument being played.

The bride had started walking down the hall. She was as red as the rose. Before her went a merry procession of singers and musicians.

The wedding guest didn't have a choice but to hear. Thus continued the mariner: "Then came the storm, severe and strong. The storm overtook them, and chased the ship southwards.

The cruel torturous ways of the storm is described here. The storm blew harsh, yelled and chased them towards south. The ship's steer hung low.

They witnessed both mist and snow. The weather became wondrous cold with ice everywhere as bright and clear as emerald.

The floating ice and steep sides of the ice-bergs formed a dismayed sheen, that is, a smooth bright surface of ice.

There was ice all around them. The ice cracked, growled, roared and howled, like noises of a person in a fainting fit.

Then, the albatross arrived through the fog. It was hailed in God's name, as a Christian soul.

It ate the food it had never eaten and flew round the ship. Then, a miracle occurred, when the ice cracked and the helmsman could steer the ship through the ice.

Throughout their journey down south, the albatross followed them, and everyday, came for food or play, at the call of the mariners. The nights turned to become "glimmered" like "the white moonshine."

Part 1 of the poem concludes with the ancient mariner possessing an ill omen about the albatross. This part of the narration gave the ancient mariner a troubled look. When asked the reason for the same by the wedding guest, the mariner let it out and revealed the terrible truth that he shot the albatross.

6. Answer the following by choosing the right option from those given below:

(a) The Ancient Mariner stopped one of the three wedding guests because.....

- i. he wanted to attend the wedding with him
- ii. he wanted him to sit with him
- iii. he wanted him to listen to his story
- iv. he wanted to stop him from going to the wedding

Answer:

- iii. he wanted him to listen to his story.

(b) The wedding guest remarked that he was 'next of kin' which means that .....

- i. he was a close relation of the bridegroom
- ii. he was a close relation of the bride
- iii. he was next in line to get married
- iv. he had to stand next to the bridegroom during the wedding

Answer:

- i. he was a close relation of the bridegroom

(c) 'He cannot choose but hear' means.....

- i. the mariner was forced to hear the story of the wedding guest
- ii. the wedding guest was forced to hear the story of the mariner
- iii. the mariner had the choice of not listening to the story of the wedding guest
- iv. the wedding guest had the choice of not listening to the story of the mariner

Answer:

- ii. the wedding guest was forced to hear the story of the mariner

(d) 'The sun came up upon the left, / Out of the sea came he ;' This line tells us that the ship.....

- i. was moving in the northern direction
- ii. was moving eastwards
- iii. was moving in the western direction
- iv. was moving towards the south

Answer:

- iv. was moving towards the south

(e) The Wedding-Guest beat his breast because.....

- i. he could hear the sound of the bassoon
- ii. he was forced to listen to the Mariner's tale when he wanted to attend the wedding
- iii. the sound of the bassoon meant that the bride had arrived and the wedding ceremony was about to begin and he could not attend it.
- iv. the sound of the bassoon announced the arrival of the bride and the start of the wedding ceremony

Answer:

iii. the sound of the bassoon meant that the bride had arrived and the wedding ceremony was about to begin and he could not attend it.

(f) The storm blast has been described as being tyrannous because.....

- i. it was so fierce that it frightened the sailors
- ii. it took complete control of the ship
- iii. the storm was very powerful
- iv. the sailors were at its mercy

Answer:

- iv. the sailors were at its mercy

(g) The sailors felt depressed on reaching the land of mist and snow because.....

- i. there was no sign of any living creature
- ii. they felt they would die in that cold weather
- iii. they were surrounded by icebergs and there seemed to be no sign of life
- iv. everything was grey in colour and they felt very cold

Answer:

- iii. they were surrounded by icebergs and there seemed to be no sign of life

(h) The sailors were happy to see the albatross because.....

- i. it was the first sign of life and therefore gave them hope that they might survive
- ii. it split the icebergs around the ship and helped the ship move forward.
- iii. it was a messenger from God and it lifted the fog and mist.
- iv. it gave them hope of survival by splitting the icebergs.

Answer:

- ii. it split the icebergs around the ship and helped the ship move forward.

(i) The two things that happened after the arrival of the albatross were .....

- i. the icebergs split and the albatross became friendly with the sailors
- ii. the icebergs split and a strong breeze started blowing
- iii. the ship was pushed out of the land of mist and the ice melted.
- iv. the albatross started playing with the mariners and ate the food they offered.

Answer:

- ii. the icebergs split and a strong breeze started blowing

(j) 'It perched for vespers nine' means.....

- i. the ship stopped sailing at nine o'clock every day
- ii. the albatross would appear at a fixed time everyday.
- iii. the albatross would sit on the sail or the mast everyday
- iv. the albatross was a holy creature

Answer:

- ii. the albatross would appear at a fixed time every day.

(k) 'God save thee, ancient Mariner, /From the fiends that plague thee thus!- Why look'st thou so?' means.....

- i. the mariner wanted to know why the wedding guest was looking so tormented
- ii. the wedding guest wanted to know why the mariner was looking so tormented
- iii. the wedding guest wanted to know whether some creatures were troubling the ancient mariner
- iv. the ancient mariner wanted to know whether something was troubling the wedding guest

Answer:

- ii. the wedding guest wanted to know why the mariner was looking

so tormented

Page No: 118

7. Answer the following questions briefly

(a) How did the ancient mariner stop the wedding guest?

Answer:

The ancient mariner held the wedding guest with his skinny hand, and forced him into listening to him, capturing his attention with his glittering eyes. His gaze was so strong and intense, that even though the wedding guest did not want to listen to the story, he was forced to, much against his will.

(b) Was the wedding guest happy to be stopped? Give reasons for your answer.

Answer:

No, the wedding guest was not happy because he was forcibly detained by the ancient mariner whereas he being a close relative of the bridegroom, was expected to reach there well in time. The guests had already arrived there. The feast was set. The loud sound of bassoon could be heard.

(c) Describe the ancient mariner.

Answer:

The ancient mariner looks like a lunatic with his grey long beard with glittering eyes. His hands were rough and skinny and he had a mesmerising gaze. The mariner was badly ridden with a sense of guilt and remorse after the wanton act of killing the Albatross. He is cursed to be haunted indefinitely by his dead shipmates, and to be compelled to tell the tale of his downfall at random times.

(d) How does the mariner describe the movement of the ship as it sails away from the land?

Answer:

The mariner described the movement of the ship as it sailed away from the land in a very animated and interesting way. His description was so realistic that the wedding guest was mesmerised. As the ship moved southward, the weather was pleasant. But soon the weather started changing for the worst. First, a storm broke. It later turned to mist and snow, due to which their ship was stuck in ice.

(e) What kind of weather did the sailors enjoy at the beginning of their journey? How has it been expressed in the poem?

Answer:

The weather was pleasant and sunny at the beginning of the journey.

The sun came as if appearing from the innards of the sea. The sun was bright day after day during the initial phase of the journey.

(f) How did the sailors reach the land of mist and snow?

Answer:

The sailor started their journey happily. But after a very short spell of smooth journey a very turbulent and violent sea-storm rose. The storm was so powerful that it completely overtook the ship and drove the ship to the extreme South. In this way, the sailors reached the land of mist and snow.

(g) How does the mariner express the fact that the ship was completely surrounded by icebergs?

Answer:

The words "the ice was here, the ice was there, the ice was all around," gives us the picture of the ship surrounded, or rather, caught completely by the icebergs.

(h) How do we know that the albatross was not afraid of the humans? Why did the sailors hail it in God's name?

Answer:

Albatross didn't fear humans because it followed the mariners day and night and ate and played with them as well. The sailors hailed it in God's name because it was a messenger from God which lifted the fog and mist.

(i) What was the terrible deed done by the Mariner? Why do you think he did it?

Answer:

The terrible deed done by the Mariner was that he shot the albatross. I think he did it because he considered its presence to be a bad omen.

\*\*\*\*\* END \*\*\*\*\*