

## **The Rime of the Ancient Mariner Previous Year Questions (with model answers)**

**Q1. Why did the sailor hail the albatross in 'God's name'? [CBSE 2019]**

**Ans.** The albatross is referred to as the Christian soul in The Rime of the Ancient Mariner. It appeared out of nowhere, so it was praised in God's name. The seafarers thought it was a lifesaver. The icebergs began to break after the albatross arrived, allowing the ship to go forward.

**Q2. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: [CBSE 2017]**

The Bridegroom's doors are opened wide,  
And I am next of kin;  
The guests are met, the feast is set:  
Mays't hear the merry din.

**(a) Who speaks the above lines?**

**Ans.** mariner

**(b) What occasion is being described?**

**Ans.** the wedding

**(c) What does the word, 'merry' mean?**

**Ans.** happy

**Q3. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow : [CBSE 2017]**

Ah! Well-a-day! What evil looks  
Had I from old and young!  
Instead of the cross, the Albatross  
About my neck was hung.

**(a) Why did the speaker have evil looks from the mariners?**

**Ans.** The speaker had evil looks from the mariners because they held him responsible for their suffering.

**(b) Why did they hang the albatross around the speaker's neck?**

**Ans.** They hung the Albatross around his neck as a mark of his sin and to evoke guilt in him. They did so out of a sense of revenge.

**(c) What does the word 'evil' mean?**

**Ans.** The word evil means wicked or cruel.

**Q4. No sinful action can ever go without its consequences. What consequences does the Ancient Mariner have to face as a result of his sinful action? [CBSE 2017]**

**Ans.** The poem, The Rime of the Ancient Mariner, deals a cruel mariner who did the ghastly act of killing the albatross. As a result, he landed himself in such a situation that all the sailors blamed him for the problem they faced during their voyage and hung the dead albatross around his neck to remind him of his sinful act. Through the poem, Coleridge wants to say that we are paid back in the same coin. The mariner was being tormented and the only way to lessen this torment was by sharing the incident with someone and to do the same, he stopped one of the wedding guests and told him the story. Thus, since that day, the mariner has been living a life of guilt and looking to expiate his sin.

**Q5. Why did the mariners hail the arrival of the albatross? [CBSE 2017]**

**Ans.** The arrival of the bird was marked with the start of a favourable wind which drove their ship. Thus, the mariners treated it as a holy messenger of god that brought the good south wind.

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