

CBSE TEST PAPER-02
Class - 10 English Communicative
(The Rime of Ancient Mariner)

General Instruction:

- Question No. 1 to 3 carry Eight marks.
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1. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:

“ And now the storm-blast came, and he

Was tyrannous and strong:

He struck with his o’ertaking wings,

And chased us south along.

- a. What happened in the story of the mariner?
- b. What is the meaning of tyrannous?
- c. What did it do the ship? Where was the ship taken?
- d. How is the storm shown here?

OR

Nor dim nor red, like God’s own head

The glorious sun purist;

Then all averred, I had killed the bird

That brought the fog and mist

‘Twas right, said they, such birds to slay

That bring the fog and mist

- a. Did the sailors change their mind?
- b. What does this tell about their character?
- c. Explain: ‘Glorious sun’ and ‘like God’s own head.’
- d. Identify the poetic device used in the first line.

2. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each:

- a. Describe the ancient mariner?
- b. What kind of welcome did the albatross receive? Why?

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- c. What crime had the mariner committed and how did it prove hellish?
 - d. Why did he have to tell his tale to someone?

3. Answer any one of the following questions in 80-100 words:

What is the poet trying to convey through this poem?

OR

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?

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[Answers]

1.
 - i.
 - a. Suddenly there came a very strong and powerful storm.
 - b. Severe and harsh.
 - c. It overpowered the ship completely. The helpless ship was chased towards south.
 - d. Here, the storm is personified as a huge bird with large wings.
 - ii.
 - a. First the sailors accused the mariner, then they said he had done the right thing as they felt the bird was responsible for the fog and mist.
 - b. They were fickle-minded and changed their opinion later.
 - c. It is the bright sun spreading light everywhere on everyone alike. A halo around the sun is compared to God's head that has a halo around it. Sun was glorious because it had come out after the foggy weather.
 - d. The poetic device in the first line is simile.
2.
 - a. The ancient mariner was old, skinny and quite thin. He had a grey beard. He was sad and twinkle in his eyes was so compelling that could hold any one.
 - b. The ship had been stuck in the ice for days. There seemed to be no way to get out of it. The appearance of the albatross through the fog made the men cheerful. They gave food to eat and treated the bird as a good omen, because the ice split soon after its arrival.
 - c. The mariner had killed the innocent bird who brought new hope and the blowing of the south wind. After the bird was killed, the mariner's ship was stuck in the middle of the hot and sultry sea. There was no water to drink and no ray of hope to cheer, they underwent a lot of physical and mental agony.
 - d. He had been carrying the burden of his guilt for a very long time. So, there was a need to tell his story to someone so that he could get solace from his guilt. This is the curse that the Mariner has to carry on. He feels the urgent urge to share it with whoever he meets to get relief.
3. Whenever we act or behave thoughtlessly, we are made to suffer the consequences of our foolish and careless actions. It is our own inner conscience that holds us guilty. Happiness eludes us. Leading normal life becomes difficult. It is said, "A clear conscience

is a continual Christmas". We are repentant but sometimes it will be very late. What has been done cannot be undone. Happiness and joy, does not make a guilt-ridden heart cheerful. He who knows he has sinned, moves around with a guilty face. Sharing the guilt is confession. Accepting the sin gives solace. A guilty person wants to share the burden and always look for someone to hear his confession. It helps him to feel relieved. Accepting the fault, seeking for forgiveness, and not to repeat the wrong can lessen the suffering. The poet is trying to convey through this poem certain values

- Respect and appreciate all of God's creations, no matter how great or small.
- Forgiveness.
- Feeling guilt itself leads us to repentance.
- Power of nature.
- Sin and regeneration.

OR

Whenever we act or behave thoughtlessly or rudely, we are made to suffer for the consequences of such actions. We agree or may not agree but it is our own conscience that holds us guilty. We may escape the attention of the public but it is impossible to escape from the divine presence. For every sin there is a punishment. Confession may purify one's heart if he does not commit it again but punishment is certain. Here in this context the poet very clearly suggested that the Mariner suffers for his sin through the curses of nature.

The ancient Mariner killed the Albatross without any reason. It was a wretched thing done by the Mariner to kill the bird which brought the good south wind. The Mariner, of course, deserved punishment for not caring the creation of God. God, the creator of life, only can take the life. Killing the bird deliberately for fun is unpardonable. The ancient mariner committed sin by killing the bird so he rightly deserved the punishment. The fellow sailors were also equally responsible because they approved of the killing of the bird. The sailors were fickle-minded and they also felt the bird was responsible for the fog and the mist.