



**The Grammar Dog Guide to  
The Rime of the  
Ancient Mariner  
by Samuel Taylor Coleridge**

**All quizzes use sentences from the poem.  
Includes over 250 multiple choice questions.**

## About Gramwardog

Gramwardog was founded in 2001 by Mary Jane McKinney, a high school English teacher and dedicated grammarian. She and other experienced English teachers in both high school and college regard grammar and style as the key to unlocking the essence of an author.

Their philosophy, that grammar and literature are best understood when learned together, led to the formation of Gramwardog.com, a means of sharing knowledge about the structure and patterns of language unique to specific authors. These patterns are what make a great book *a great book*. The arduous task of analyzing works for grammar and style has yielded a unique product, guaranteed to enlighten the reader of literary classics.

Gramwardog's strategy is to put the author's words under the microscope. The result yields an increased appreciation of the art of writing and awareness of the importance and power of language.



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ISBN 978-1-60857-087-4

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**SAMPLE EXERCISES - THE RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER** by Samuel Taylor Coleridge

**EXERCISE 5 COMPLEMENTS**

Identify the complements in the following sentences. Label the underlined words:

*d.o. = direct object*                      *p.n. = predicate nominative*  
*o.p. = object of preposition*        *p.a. = predicate adjective*

- \_\_\_1.        And there came both mist and snow, and it grew wondrous cold.
- \_\_\_2.        It ate the food it ne'er had eat, and round and round it flew.
- \_\_\_3.        We were the first that ever burst into that silent sea.

**EXERCISE 6 PHRASES**

Identify the phrases in the following sentences. Label the underlined words:

*par = participial*      *ger = gerund*      *inf = infinitive*      *appos = appositive*      *prep = prepositional*

- \_\_\_1.        'By thy long grey beard and glittering eye, now wherefore stopp'st thou me?'
- \_\_\_2.        And thus spake on that ancient man, the bright-eyed Mariner.
- \_\_\_3.        Ah wretch! said they, the bird to slay, that made the breeze to blow.

**EXERCISE 9 STYLE: FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE**

Identify the figurative language in the following sentences. Label the underlined words:

*p = personification*      *s = simile*      *m = metaphor*      *o = onomatopoeia*

- \_\_\_1.        The sun came up upon the left, out of the sea came he!
- \_\_\_2.        The bride hath paced into the hall, red as a rose is she.
- \_\_\_3.        Day after day, day after day, we stuck, nor breath nor motion; as idle as a painted ship upon a painted ocean.

**EXERCISE 12 STYLE: ALLUSIONS AND SYMBOLS**

Identify the type of allusion in the following sentences. Label the underlined words:

*a. music*      *b. religion*      *c. birds*      *d. folklore/superstition*

- \_\_\_1.        The Wedding-Guest here beat his breast, for he heard the loud bassoon.

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\_\_\_2. At length did cross an Albatross, thorough the fog it came; as if it had been a Christian soul, we hailed it in God's name.

\_\_\_3. 'Why look'st thou so?' – 'With my crossbow I shot the Albatross.'

**EXERCISE 13 STYLE: LITERARY ANALYSIS – SELECTED PASSAGE 1**

Read the following passage the first time through for meaning.

The fair breeze blew, the white foam flew,  
The furrow followed free;  
We were the first that ever burst  
Into that silent sea.

Down dropt the breeze, the sails dropt down,  
'Twas sad as sad could be;  
And we did speak only to break  
The silence of the sea!

All in a hot and copper sky,  
The bloody Sun, at noon,  
Right up above the mast did stand,  
No bigger than the Moon.

Day after day, day after day,  
We stuck, nor breath nor motion;  
As idle as a painted ship  
Upon a painted ocean.

Water, water, everywhere,  
And all the boards did shrink;  
Water, water, everywhere,  
Nor any drop to drink.  
(From Part II)

Read the passage a second time, marking figurative language, sensory imagery, poetic devices, and any other patterns of diction and rhetoric, then answer the questions below.

- 1 The fair breeze blew, the white foam flew,
- 2 The furrow followed free;
- 3 We were the first that ever burst
- 4 Into that silent sea.
- 5 Down dropt the breeze, the sails dropt down,
- 6 'Twas sad as sad could be;

***SAMPLE EXERCISES - THE RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER*** by Samuel Taylor Coleridge

- 7 And we did speak only to break
- 8 The silence of the sea!
- 9 All in a hot and copper sky,
- 10 The bloody Sun, at noon,
- 11 Right up above the mast did stand,
- 12 No bigger than the Moon.
- 13 Day after day, day after day,
- 14 We stuck, nor breath nor motion;
- 15 As idle as a painted ship
- 16 Upon a painted ocean.
- 17 Water, water, everywhere,
- 18 And all the boards did shrink;
- 19 Water, water, everywhere,
- 20 Nor any drop to drink.

- \_\_\_ 1. The underlined words in Lines 1 and 2 are examples of . . .  
a. assonance b. consonance c. alliteration d. rhyme
- \_\_\_ 2. The underlined words in Line 7 are an example of . . .  
a. assonance b. consonance c. alliteration d. rhyme
- \_\_\_ 3. Lines 15 and 16 contain an example of . . .  
a. simile b. metaphor c. personification d. hyperbole

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