

QUESTIONS FROM DEPARTMENTAL AND MATRICULATION EXAM- INATION PAPERS

✓ 1. Set forth what you consider to be the excellencies of *The Ancient Mariner*, illustrating by reference to the poem.

✓ 2. Trace through the poem the principal changes of feeling in the *Ancient Mariner*.

✓ 3. What part does the Wedding Guest play in the story?

4. *In mist or cloud, on mast or shroud,
It perched for ~~vespers~~ nine;
Whiles all the night, through fog-smoke white,
Glimmered the white moon-shine."*

"God save thee, ancient Mariner,
From the fiends that plague thee thus!—
Why look'st thou so?"—"With my cross-bow
I shot the Albatross!"

(a) Explain the italicized expressions.

(b) Who speaks the lines beginning, "God save thee, Ancient mariner"?

(c) What is implied in the words *thus* and *so* in the second stanza?

5. Almost upon the western wave
Rested the broad bright Sun;
When that strange shape drove suddenly
Betwixt us and the Sun.

And *straight* the Sun was flecked with bars,
(*Heaven's Mother send us grace!*)
As if through a dungeon-grate he *peered*
With broad and burning face.

Alas! (thought I, and my heart beat loud)
How fast she nears and nears!
Are those *her* sails that glance in the Sun,
Like restless *gossameres*?

(a) Explain the meaning of the italicized expressions.

(b) Who made up the crew of the "strange shape."

(c) Why are the words "drove" and "nears" especially fitting in this connection?