Rhyme Scheme

Directions: Label the rhyme pattern for this excerpt from the poem, "Rime of the Ancient Mariner," by Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

The ice was here, the ice was there,

The ice was all around:

It cracked and growled, and roared and howled,

Like noises in a swound!

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.

It ate the food it ne'er had eat,

And round and round it flew.

The ice did split with a thunder-fit;

The helmsman steered us through!

And a good south wind sprung up behind;

The Albatross did follow,

And every day, for food or play,

Came to the mariner's hollo!

Rhyme Pattern

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Albatross flying alongside the S.A. Agulhas II

Photo Credit: Beat Rinderknecht

A landscape of ice

Photo Credit: Falklands Maritime Heritage Trust

Battling waves on the high seas

Photo Credit: Falklands Maritime Heritage Trust

Directions: Based on your reading and understadning of the poem, answer the questions below.

1. What were the conditions like when the sailors first saw the albatross?

2. What do you think the arrival of the albatross represents? Why?

Write your own poem with an ABCB rhyme scheme:

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Rhyme Pattern

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