

Extract from The Highwayman by Alfred Noyes



11 The wind was a torrent of darkness among the gusty trees.
21 The moon was a ghostly galleon tossed upon cloudy seas.
32 The road was a ribbon of moonlight over the purple moor,
37 And the highwayman came came riding—
39 Riding—riding—
48 The highwayman came riding, up to the old inn-door.

59 He'd a French cocked-hat on his forehead, a bunch of lace
62 at his chin,
73 A coat of the claret velvet, and breeches of brown doe-skin.
85 They fitted with never a wrinkle. His boots were up to the
86 thigh.
92 And he rode with a jewelled twinkle,
96 His pistol butts a-twinkle,
104 His rapier hilt a-twinkle, under the jewelled sky.



Questions



1. What material is the highwayman's coat made from?



2. Find and copy the word that tells you that the sky is starry.



3. What do you think a galleon is? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.



4. Alfred Noyes describes the darkness as a **torrent**. What effect does this have on the reader?

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Questions



1. What material is the highwayman's coat made from?

The highwayman's coat is made from velvet.



2. Find and copy the word that tells you that the sky is starry.

jewelled



3. What do you think a galleon is? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that a galleon is a ship because it says it is 'tossed upon cloudy seas' so it must be something on the water.



4. Alfred Noyes describes the darkness as a **torrent**. What effect does this have on the reader?

Pupils' own responses, such as: A torrent is a large amount of moving water so when Alfred Noyes uses this word to describe the darkness, it makes me think that the darkness is powerful and that the highwayman is fighting his way through it.