

Pirate Don Durk of Dowdee

By Mildred Plew Meigs

Ho, for the Pirate Don Durk of Dowdee!
He was as wicked as wicked could be,
But oh, he was perfectly gorgeous to see!
The Pirate Don Durk of Dowdee.

His conscience, of course, was as black as a bat,
But he had a floppety plume on his hat
And when he went walking it jiggled - like that!
The plume of the Pirate Dowdee.

His coat it was handsome and cut with a slash,
And often as ever he twirled his mustache
Deep down in the ocean the mermaids went splash,
Because of Don Durk of Dowdee.

Moreover, Dowdee had a purple tattoo,
And struck in his belt where he buckled it through
Were a dagger, a dirk, and a squizzamaroo,
For fierce was the Pirate Dowdee.

So fearful he was he would shoot at a puff,
And always at sea when the weather grew rough
He drank from a bottle and wrote on his cuff,
Did Pirate Don Durk of Dowdee.

Oh, he had a cutlass that swung at his thigh
And he had a parrot called Pepperkin Pye,
And a zigzaggy scar at the end of his eye
Had Pirate Don Durk of Dowdee.

He kept in a cavern, this buccaneer bold,
A curious chest that was covered with mould,
And all of his pockets were jingly with gold!
Oh jing! went the gold of Dowdee.

His conscience, of course it was crook'd like a squash,
But both of his boots made a slickery slosh,
And he went through the world with a wonderful swash,
Did Pirate Don Durk of Dowdee.

It's true he was wicked as wicked could be,
His sins they outnumbered a hundred and three,
But oh, he was perfectly gorgeous to see,
The Pirate Don Durk of Dowdee.



Questions

1. Read the poem above. Then answer the following questions.
Write your answers in your notebook.
2. What is this poem about?
3. Write the rhyming words for each stanza in the poem.

Stanza 1	Stanza 4	Stanza 7
Stanza 2	Stanza 5	Stanza 8
Stanza 3	Stanza 6	Stanza 9

4. Write words from the poem that are descriptive and involves the use of the senses.

sight	Hearing	smelling	tasting	feeling

5. What things made the pirate “perfectly gorgeous to see”?
6. What do the following lines mean?
 - a. “He was wicked as wicked could be” (line 2)
 - b. “His conscience, of course, it was crooke’d like a squash” (line 29)
7. What figure of speech is used in this poem? Give an example.