

SPaG with The Highwayman Answers

The Semi-colon

Can you put semi-colons back in these phrases from the poem?

Where Tim the ostler listened his face was white and peaked; his eyes were hollows of madness, his hair like mouldy hay.

He rose upright in the stirrups; he scarce could reach her hand.

Look for me by moonlight; watch me by moonlight; I'll come to thee by moonlight.

Blood-red were his spurs in the golden noon; wine-red was his velvet coat.

Onomatopoeia

Can you find any onomatopoeic words in The Highwayman?

Hints:

- A word to describe the wind

gusty

- Something that tapped on the windows

whip

- The noise of the stable-wicket

creaked

- The sounds of the highwayman's horse

clattered, clashed, tlot-tlot



Can you think of a sentence that uses an onomatopoeic word to describe when the highwayman is shot?

E.g. When they shot him down on the highway: he hit the ground with a slam.

Accept suitable sentences that include onomatopoeic words such as bang, thump, thud, crack.

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Tenses

The last stanza of the highwayman moves from the past tense into the present tense. What effect does this have on the story?

Even though Bess and the highwayman are dead, their spirits come back to haunt the night and play out the love scene again and again and could even be happening right now.

Can you retell these lines from the Highwayman in the present tense?

The wind was a torrent of darkness among the gusty tree,
The moon was a ghostly galleon tossed upon cloudy seas,
The road was a ribbon of moonlight over the purple moor,
And the highwayman came riding-

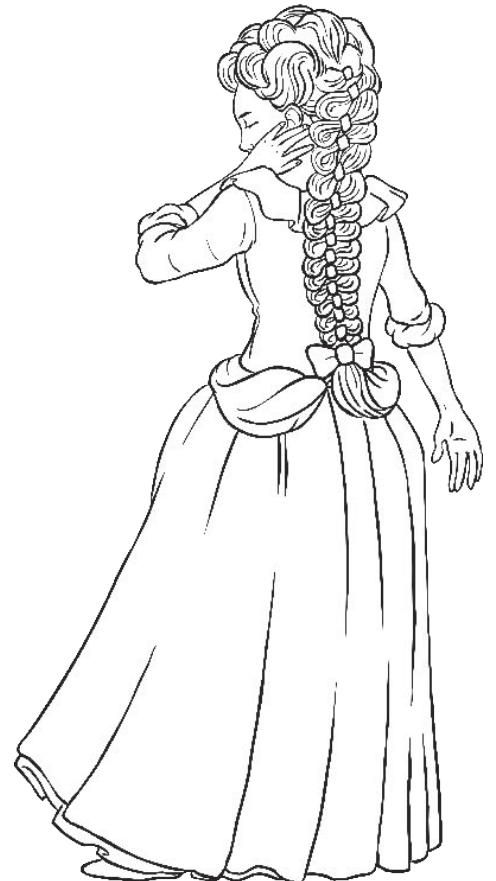
Riding-riding

The highwayman came riding, up to the old inn-door.

*The wind is a torrent of darkness among the gusty tree,
The moon is a ghostly galleon tossing upon the cloudy seas,
The road is a ribbon of moonlight over the purple moor,
And the highwayman comes riding-*

Riding-riding

The highwayman comes riding, up to the old inn-door.



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Metaphors and Similes

Read through the Highwayman and write down any metaphors and similes that you can find in a table like this:

Metaphors	Similes
<i>The wind was a torrent of darkness</i>	<i>his hair like mouldy hay,</i>
<i>The road was a ribbon of moonlight.</i>	<i>Dumb as a dog he listened,</i>
<i>under the jewelled sky.</i>	<i>His face burnt like a brand</i>
<i>His eyes were hollows of madness,</i>	<i>and the hours crawled by like years</i>
<i>When the road was a gypsy's ribbon</i>	<i>Her face was like a light.</i>
<i>Flot-flot, in the frosty silence!</i>	<i>Back, he spurred like a madman,</i>
<i>Her musket shattered the moonlight,</i>	<i>Down like a dog on the highway,</i>
<i>With the white road smoking behind him</i>	

The poem describes the moon as 'a ghostly galleon tossed upon cloudy seas,'. Can you think of your own metaphor to describe the moon?

Accept suitable metaphors to describe the moon.

