

# Fill in the Blank: Tell a Tall Tale

Sailors are known for spinning yarns (telling tall tales) about adventures they have had and things that they have seen. See how well you can do – the more outrageous the story, the better!

I'm going to tell you an extraordinary story. It was back when I was \_\_\_\_\_ (who). We were cruising the \_\_\_\_\_ (where) aboard a \_\_\_\_\_ (what) in the \_\_\_\_\_ (description) seas off \_\_\_\_\_ (description) coasts. We had turned \_\_\_\_\_ (direction) to avoid a \_\_\_\_\_ (weather to avoid), when we suddenly heard a haunting song. There, sitting on a \_\_\_\_\_ (object) were three beautiful maidens. Their song instantly enchanted my \_\_\_\_\_ (description) shipmates, who steered towards the rock. But I blocked my ears with \_\_\_\_\_ (plugging material) and leaped from my position on the \_\_\_\_\_ (ship's location). I grabbed the helm, set a safe course, and tied the wheel with \_\_\_\_\_ (fixing material). Then I fought off my shipmates until we were safely out of earshot.

To this day, I dream of those beautiful sirens every night.



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Now this terrible event took place when I was \_\_\_\_\_ (who), and our \_\_\_\_\_ (description) \_\_\_\_\_ (what) was stranded \_\_\_\_\_ (where).

We had not a breath of wind in a week, and one night a fog came down upon us. We knew that there \_\_\_\_\_ (hazard) all around us. What could we do? It was impossible to see from one side of the ship's \_\_\_\_\_ (what) to the other, and there was a \_\_\_\_\_ (location) dangerously close. Then I had a brilliant idea. I climbed the mast, cut up the fog with a sword, and tied it in a ditty bag with a \_\_\_\_\_ (object).

Cook served up portions of fog with gravy, and in two days we had eaten our way out to clear skies.



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You might not believe this yarn, but I swear on my granny's grave that it's true. It was when our \_\_\_\_\_ (ship's condition) \_\_\_\_\_ (ship type) was cruising in \_\_\_\_\_ (ocean state) seas in \_\_\_\_\_ (place).

I was standing in the ship's \_\_\_\_\_ (ship's location) when my parrot \_\_\_\_\_ (name), who never usually left my shoulder, flew off an out of sight. He headed towards the \_\_\_\_\_ (place) lands nearby, and I thought he was gone for good. So I was delighted when, just hours later, he returned – and with a leaf of purest gold in his beak! Of course I hid this from our \_\_\_\_\_ (officers). The parrot repeated this trick the next day, and the one after. I would have been a rich man if our lousy \_\_\_\_\_ (shipmates) ship's cat had not captured poor \_\_\_\_\_ (parrot's name) and reduced him to a lifeless pile of brightly colored feathers.

