**Class Schedule**

1. Test on last lesson’s vocabulary (15 mins)
2. Opening Activity (10 mins)
3. Read extract (10 mins)
4. Comprehension questions (15 mins)
5. Read through new vocab (10 mins)

**Refresh Test**

* Spot check on definitions, antonyms and synonyms of last week’s words (use the words in sentences)

**Opening Activity**

*Match the word to the definition!*

1. Perish
2. Halt
3. Wither
4. Liberal
5. Rural
6. Vessel
7. Mortal
8. Procure
9. Sinister
10. Selfish
11. Become dry and shrivelled
12. In or relating to the countryside rather than the town
13. A ship or large boat; something in which liquid is contained
14. Lacking consideration for others; only thinks about themselves
15. Bring or come to an abrupt stop
16. Subject to death, able to die
17. Something that gives the impression of something harmful or evil about to happen
18. Obtain, especially with care or effort
19. Die in an especially violent or sudden way; rot or decay (of food)
20. Willing to respect or accept behaviour or opinions different from one’s own; open to new ide

Moby Dick by Herman Melville: Eton College King’s Scholarship Examination 2019

Call me Ishmael. Some years ago—never mind how long **precisely**—having little or no money in my purse, and nothing particular to interest me on shore, I thought I would sail about a little and see the watery part of the world. It is a way I have of driving off the **spleen** and regulating the **circulation**. Whenever I find myself growing grim about the mouth; whenever it is a damp, drizzly November in my soul; whenever I find myself **involuntarily** pausing before coffin warehouses, and bringing up the rear of every funeral I meet; and especially whenever my hypos get such an upper hand of me, that it requires a strong moral principle to prevent me from **deliberately** stepping into the street, and **methodically** knocking people’s hats off—then, I account it high time to get to sea as soon as I can. This is my **substitute** for pistol and ball. With a **philosophical** **flourish** Cato throws himself upon his sword; I quietly take to the ship. There is nothing surprising in this. If they but knew it, almost all men in their degree, some time or other, **cherish** very nearly the same feelings toward the ocean with me.

There now is your **insular** city of the Manhattoes, belted round by **wharves** as Indian isles by coral reefs—**commerce** surrounds it with her **surf**. Right and left, the streets take you waterward. Its extreme down-town is the **battery**, where that noble **mole** is washed by waves, and cooled by breezes, which a few hours previous were out of sight of land. Look at the crowds of water-gazers there.

Circumambulate the city of a dreamy **Sabbath** afternoon. Go from Corlears Hook to Coenties Slip, and from thence, by Whitehall, northward. What do you see? Posted like silent **sentinels** all around the town, stand thousands upon thousands of mortal men fixed in ocean reveries. Some leaning against the **spiles**; some seated upon the pier-heads; some looking over the **bulwarks** of ships from China; some high aloft in the **rigging**, as if striving to get a still better seaward **peep**. But these are all landsmen; of week days pent up in **lath** and plaster—tied to counters, nailed to benches, **clinched** to desks. How then is this? Are the green fields gone? What do they here?

But look! Here come more crowds, pacing straight for the water, and seemingly bound for a dive. Strange! Nothing will content them but the extremest limit of the land; **loitering** under the shady **lee** of yonder warehouses will not **suffice**. No. They must get just as nigh the water as they possibly can without falling in. And there they stand—miles of them—**leagues**. Inlanders all, they come from lanes and alleys, streets and avenues—north, east, south, and west. Yet here they all unite. Tell me, does the **magnetic** **virtue** of the needles of the **compasses** of all those ships attract them thither?

**Comprehension Questions**

1. Summarise the extract in a few sentences.
2. What do you infer from the passage about the narrator’s personality? Make some assumptions about who he is.
3. What is the significance of the setting here, and how does it help to create tone in this extract?
4. What is the narrator’s attitude towards the crowds in this extract?
5. What kind of narration is this?
6. What do we think this book is about, and what do we think might happen next?

**Vocabulary**

* *Define each word, put it into one of four categories (noun, adjective, verb or adverb) and, where applicable, note down a synonym or antonym.*

1. Precise – marked by exactness and accuracy
2. Spleen – an organ in the abdomine which forms part of the immune system
3. Circulation – movement around something; especially liquid
4. Involuntary – done without control or purpose
5. Deliberate – done with intention
6. Methodical – done with a system or established procedure
7. Substitute
8. Philosophical – the study of knowledge and existence
9. Flourish – a bold or extravagant gesture or action
10. Cherish
11. Insular – lacking contact with other people; ignorant
12. Wharves – a place by the sea where a ship may load or unload
13. Commerce – the activity of buying and selling
14. Surf – the line formed by waves breaking on the seashore
15. Battery – a place for guns on a ship
16. Mole – a large solid structure that serves as a pier
17. Sabbath – day of religious observance kept by Jewish people; Saturday
18. Sentinel – a soldier or guard who keeps watch
19. Spile – a small wooden peg
20. Bulwark – a defensive wall
21. Rigging – a system of ropes or chains to support a ship’s mast
22. Peep –
23. Lath – a thin strip of wood
24. Clinched – conform or settle a bargain or debate
25. Loiter
26. Lee – the sheltered side of something, away from the wind
27. Suffice
28. League – measurement of distance, about three miles
29. Magnetic
30. Virtue
31. Compass – an instrument that shows where north is

**Homework**

* Revise the vocabulary we have learned today.
* Write a story about a particularly exciting sailing trip using ten of the words from the list above, or their synonyms or antonyms.