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ΣΧΟΛΗ ΜΗΧΑΝΙΚΩΝ

MARITIME ENGLISH

SHIPPING AND SAILING TERMINOLOGY

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SHIPPING AND SAILING TERMINOLOGY

Parts of a Ship Terminology

Aft: in or towards the back part of a ship or plane

Amidships: in the middle part of a ship

Bay: an area in ship that is used for carrying goods or equipment

Beam: the widest part of a ship from one side to the other

Berth: a bed on a ship

Bilge: the bottom part of a boat

Blade: one of the flat parts of a propeller that spins around and pushes a boat or plane forwards

Boom: long pole attached to the bottom of a boat's sail that is used for changing the direction of the sail

Bow: the front part of a ship

Bowsprit: a long pole that sticks out from the front of a ship

Bridge: the part of a ship from which is controlled

Brig: a place on a ship where prisoners are kept- a small prison

Bulwarks: the sides of a ship above the deck

Cabin: a private room on a ship for a passenger or one of the people working on a ship

Capstan: a round piece of equipment that you turn to wind a heavy rope, especially on a ship or at a port

Catapult: a piece of equipment on a ship used for sending aircraft into the air

Cleat: a metal object that you tie a rope round in order to fasten something in place, especially on a ship

Cockpit: the part of a boat where the controls are

Conning tower: the part on top of a submarine from which the periscope sticks out

Crow's nest: a place near the top of a ship's mast where sailors stand to look out over the sea

Deck: the outside top part of a ship that you can walk on/ one of the levels on a ship

Escape hatch: a small door for escaping from a ship, or submarine in an emergency

Fender: a piece of rope or a tyre that protects the side of a boat from knocks

Figurehead: a wooden model of a person fixed to the front of an old-fashioned ship

Flight deck: the open area on a large ship where aircraft can take off and land

Fo’c’sle: a forecastle

Forecastle: the front part of a ship

Funnel: a tube that lets out smoke and steam from the engine of a boat

Galley: the kitchen on a boat

Gangplank: a long narrow board that you put between a boat and the land, or between two boats, so that you can walk across

Gangway: a flat board or metal structure that can be put in place between a ship and land to let people get off or on the ship

Gunnel: a gunwale

Gunwale: the upper edge of the side of a boat or ship

Hawser: a heavy cable or rope that is used for tying up or pulling a ship

Helm: a wheel or handle used for making a boat go in the direction you want

Hold: the area in a ship that is used for goods, vehicles, or bags

Hull: the part of a ship or boat that floats on the water. The front part is called the **bow** and the back part is called the **stern**.

Hydrofoil: one of the wing-shaped pieces fixed to the bottom of a hydrofoil

Jib: a small triangular sail near the front of a boat

Keel: a long thin piece of wood or metal along the bottom of a boat that helps it to balance in the water

Lanyard: a short rope used on ships for fastening things such as the sails

Mainsail: the largest sail on a ship

Mast: a tall pole that the sails hang from on a ship

Masthead: the top of the mast (=tall pole) on a boat or ship

Mizzen: the sail behind the main sail on a ship/the mast that holds the mizzen sail

Mustering station: a place on a ship, where people should gather if there is a ship emergency

Outrigger: something that sticks out from the side of a boat and helps it to float

Painter: a rope fixed to the front of a boat and used for tying it to something such as a post

Poop: the higher part at the back of an old sailing ship

Port: the side of a ship that is on your left when you look forwards. The part that is on your right is starboard.

Porthole: a small window in the side of a ship

Promenade deck: the upper area of a ship where people walk for pleasure

Propeller: a piece of equipment with blades that spin, used for moving a ship

Prow: the front of a ship or boat

Quarterdeck: the back part of a ship's upper deck, where the officers often live

Rigging: the ropes and chains used for supporting a ship's sails and masts

Rowlock: a 'U' shaped piece of metal fitted on the side of a boat to hold an oar in position

Rudder: a flat piece of wood or other material at the back of a boat that is moved to change the direction of travel

Sail: a large piece of strong cloth fixed to a tall pole on a boat, used for catching wind to move the boat across water

Saloon: a big room on a ship where passengers can sit together and talk, play games etc.

Sickbay: a room where sick people go to rest and get medical treatment on a ship

Side: the edge of a boat

Spar: a thick pole that supports the sails of a boat

Spinnaker: an extra sail sometimes fitted on the front of a boat used for racing

Starboard: the right side of a ship, as seen by someone who is looking towards the front. The left side is called **port**.

Stateroom: a small private room on a ship that is used for sleeping

Steerage: (referred to the past) that part of a passenger ship in which people who had the cheapest tickets travelled.

Stern: the back part of a ship. The front of a ship is called the bow.

Stowage: space for storing things in a boat

Sun deck: an open area on a ship where you can enjoy the sun

Superstructure: the part of a ship that is above the main deck

Thwart: a seat across the middle of a rowing boat

Tiller: a long handle at the back of a boat that is used for controlling the direction that the boat moves in

Topside: on or relating to the deck of a ship

Turret: a high part on a military ship that guns are fixed. You can turn it in order to shoot the guns in any direction.

Wardroom: a room on a warship used by all the officers except for the captain

Waterline: the highest point where water touches the side of a boat

Wheelhouse: a small room on a boat where the wheel and other controls are

Sailing Terminology

Abeam: The area at a right angle beside a boat aligned with the center of the boat.

Aboard: When something or someone is on or in a boat.

Above Deck: When someone is on deck and not in a cabin underneath.

Aft: Refers to the back area of a boat.

Aloft: A position high above a boat's deck.

Astern: The area behind a boat.

Bank: An area of shallow water created by a raised portion of the ground.

Barge: An enormous cargo-carrying boat with a flat bottom that transports large pieces of freight, typically accompanied by a tug boat.

Beam: The widest dimension of the hull of a boat.

Bear Away: The act of steering a boat away from the wind.

Below: The area beneath the main deck.

Bend: The act of fastening or securing ropes on a boat.

Bow: The front portion of a boat.

Breaker: A wave that turns to foam as it hits land.

Bridle: A strong connection of cables used for towing ships and boats.

Buoy: A floating marker in the water.

Cable: A heavy length of rope.

Capsize: When a boat turns over in the water.

Careen: When a boat tilts or leans to the side.

Centerline: The center of the boat that spans its full length.

Cleat: A fitting made of metal or other strong material, attached to a boat where a line can be fastened.

Coil: Making loops in a stretch of rope or line in order to properly store it.

Compass: An instrument with a needle that determines direction.

Deck: A floor of a boat.

Dinghy: A small boat carried on board a ship that's used to transport people to and from the craft.

Ebb tide: When the sea's tide is going out.

Elbow: A type of knot that connects two ropes.

Even keel: When a boat is sailing in an upright, balanced position.

Fair wind: A wind that is favorable for a particular sailing direction.

Fid: A tool used for splicing a rope.

Foot: The lower edge of a sail.

Fore: Refers to the front area of a boat.

Frap: The technique of wrapping rope around equipment on a boat to keep it steady and secure.

Furl: The act of securely rolling up a sail.

Galley: The area designated for food preparation on a boat.

Girtline: A rope with a block attached to it that is used to transport supplies to high areas on a boat or ship.

Halyard: A type of line used to help hoist a sail.

Helm: The wheel or tiller of a boat.

Hull: The body of a boat.

Inshore: In the direction of a shoreline.

Jib: The sail at the front of a boat.

Keel: A steel piece at the bottom of a boat that supports its frame.

Knot: A measurement of one nautical mile.

Latitude: Location north or south of the equator that is measured in degrees.

Leeward: Sailing in a downwind direction.

Longitude: Location east or west of the prime meridian that is measured in degrees.

Moor: To secure a boat in place with the help of an anchor or heavy cables.

Mooring Line: A heavy cable that secures a boat to a pier.

Nautical: A term relating to sailors and watercraft.

Offshore wind: Air that is moving away from a shoreline.

Pitch: The rising and falling motion of a boat on rough seas.

Port: The left side of a boat.

Put about: The act of changing the course of a boat.

Put in: To sail into a harbor or other stopping place.

Rigging: The collection of ropes, chains, and other equipment that helps to sail a boat.

Rudder: A steering instrument located at the stern of a boat.

Shoal: A shallow area in a body of water.

Starboard: The right side of a boat.

Stay: Heavy cable that gives support to a ship's mast.

Stern: The back of a boat.

Sternway: The motion of a ship moving backwards.

Stow: To pack or secure equipment on a boat.

Take in: To furl a sail.

Tiller: A metal or wood handle that moves a boat's rudder.

Trim: The act of adjusting the angle of a boat's sails.

Undertow: A current deep in the sea that moves in opposition to the levels of water above it.

Unfurl: To open a rolled up sail.

Veer: When a boat moves its stern to the wind and changes its original direction.

Wake: The trail left behind a boat that is moving through the water.

Waterline: The point where the surface of the water meets the hull of a boat.

Weigh Anchor: To lift a ship's anchor from the bottom of the sea in preparation to sail.

Whitecap: A type of wave that has a foamy, white top.

Windward: Sailing in an upwind direction.

Yard: A pole or rod that gives support to a sail.

Zephyr: A gentle, calm breeze