

Identifying content words 4 Date: _____

Complete the story. Fill in the blanks with the content words.
The stressed syllables are bold.

not - tail - crea·ture – beau·ti·ful – comb (x2) – near·by – time - ug·ly

The mermaid story



A mermaid is a mythical 1) _____ (NOUN) that is half woman and half fish. The name comes from 'mer' meaning sea. The male version is called a merman.

Although some mermaids are described as monstrous and 2) _____ (ADJECTIVE), they are more usually very 3) _____ (ADJECTIVE). Above the waist they appear as a lovely young woman, whilst from the waist down, they are like a fish with fins and a spreading4) _____ (NOUN).

Mermaids like to5) _____ (VERB) their long hair. In art, they are often shown with a mirror and a 6) _____ (NOUN). In some myths, mermaids would sing to men on ships or shores 7) _____ (ADVERB), practically hypnotizing them with their beauty and song. Those affected would rush out to sea only to be drowned, eaten, or otherwise sent to their doom.

Mermaids live for a very long 8) _____ (NOUN) but, according to some legends, do 9) _____ (NEGATIVE WORD) have a soul.

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