The Old Man and the Sea Study Questions II

Use your own paper and answer each of the following questions in complete, detailed sentences. Use adjectives and words right out of the novel. Page numbers are also good to include. After each answer, skip a line before answering the next question.

1. How deep is a fathom?
2. How does Santiago have his hooks baited?
3. Why does Santiago row over to the place he had seen a black winged man-of-war bird?
4. What makes the flying fish jump out of the water and scatter feverishly?
5. Why does Santiago hate the Portuguese man-of-war?
6. What facts did you learn about turtles on pages 36-37?
7. How does Santiago compare himself to a turtle?
8. What are two things Santiago does to stay healthy?
9. Describe what Santiago catches. What is it, and about how much does it weigh?
10. Santiago suddenly realizes he’s been talking to himself. When did it begin and why does he do it?
11. Santiago acknowledges this is the 85th day and that he wants to fish carefully. What does he do to fish carefully? What does he avoid doing or avoid thinking about in order to be alert and ready?
12. Suddenly a very large fish is caught on Santiago's line. What does the fish do all night long?
13. As Santiago keeps vigil over his line, what does he wish for?
14. Why does Santiago begin to pity the fish?
15. What does Santiago keep reminding himself to do in the morning when it gets light? Tell why he must do this.
16. What does Santiago do when another fish takes the bait on another line?
17. What injury does Santiago get when the fish surges?
18. Speaking out loud, what does Santiago say to the big fish on his line?
19. Why does Santiago want the fish to jump?
20. What shows up that the old man thinks of as a friend to talk to?
21. What happens to snap the old man out of his conversation with the bird?
22. How does the old man get hurt when the fish yanks on the line?
23. Santiago says he loves and respects the fish, but what vow does the old man make to the fish?
24. How does the old man discover that the fish is slowing down?
25. What happens to Santiago’s own body that bothers and disgusts him?
26. What does the old man eat to keep up his strength?