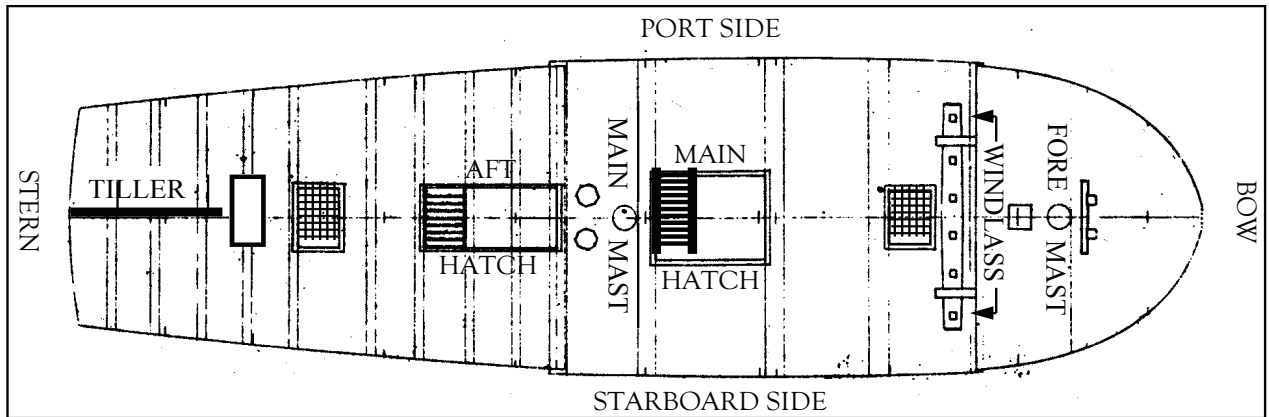


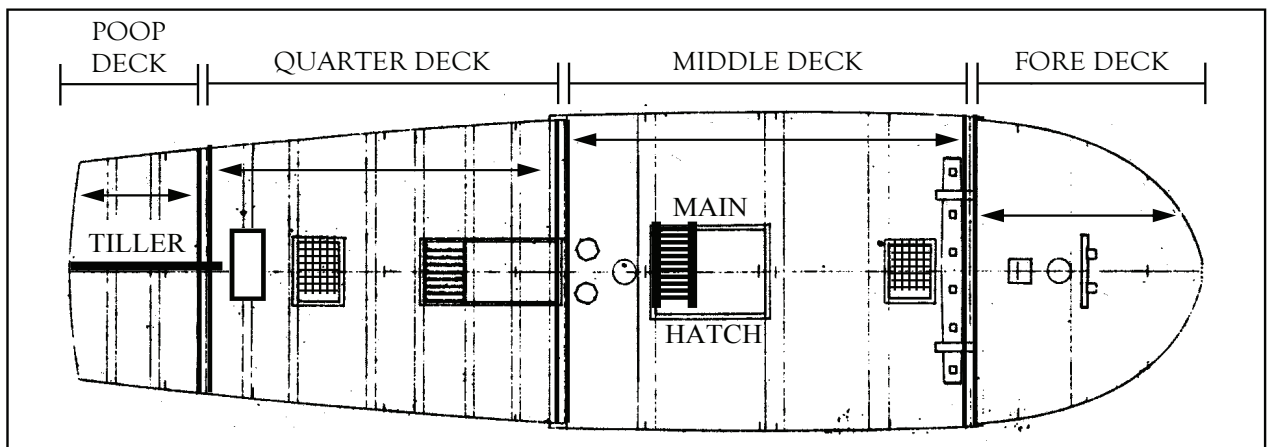


## Parts of a Ship – The Basics



*Overhead view of the schooner Sultana*

The front of a ship is called the bow, and the back is called the stern. If you were standing on the ship's deck looking forward (towards the bow), the left side would be the port side and the right side would be the starboard side. Close to Sultana's stern is the tiller, a long stick attached to a device called a rudder used for steering the ship. Other important items include the main mast, the fore mast and the windlass (a large simple machine used for pulling up the anchor).



Sultana's deck is divided into four sections. At the front of the ship is the fore deck, where the anchors are stored and the fore mast is located. The largest section of the ship is the middle deck where the main hatch is located. Historically, this is where cargo would have been loaded and unloaded. Towards the ship's stern is the quarter deck. On larger ships, only the high ranking officers were allowed to stand in this area. Sultana's smallest deck is the poop deck, where sailors steered with the tiller.



## Parts of a Ship – The Basics

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

### COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

DIRECTIONS: Read the text on the previous page, then answer the following questions in complete sentences. Write your answers on the lines provided.

1. What is the front of a ship called? What do you call the back of the ship?

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2. When facing the bow, what is the left side of the ship called?

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3. When facing the bow, what is the right side of the ship called?

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4. Where would cargo have been loaded aboard Sultana?

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5. What are Sultana's four decks called?

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