25 — THE PEARL

Kino, in his pride and youth and strength, could remain down over two minutes without strain, so that he worked deliberately, selecting the largest shells. Because they were disturbed, the oyster shells were tightly closed. A little to his right a hummock of rubbly rock struck up, covered with young oysters not ready to take. Kino moved next to the hummock, and then, beside it, under a little overhang, he saw a very large oyster lying by itself, not covered with its clinging brothers. The shell was partly open, for the overhang protected this ancient oyster, and in the lip-like muscle Kino saw a ghostly gleam, and then the shell closed down. His heart beat out a heavy rhythm and the melody of the maybe pearl shrilled in his ears. Slowly he forced the oyster loose and held it tightly against his breast. He kicked his foot free from the rock loop, and his body rose to the surface and his black hair gleamed in the sunlight. He reached over the side of the canoe and laid the oyster in the bottom.

John Steinbeck

الألفاظ والعبارات :

Without strain	دون أي جهد
Deliberately	بتروٍ
Oyster	محارة
Tightly closed	محكم الاغلاق
Hummock	رابية
A ghostly gleam	ومضة شبحية
His heart beat out heavy rhythm	خفق قلبه بعنف
The melody of the maybe pearl	لحن اللؤلؤة المنشودة
Shrilled in his ears	صدح في آذانه