

THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210406-shipwreck.html>

An American ocean exploration team has filmed the world's deepest known shipwreck for the first time. The ship is a World War II US Navy battleship called the USS Johnston. It was sunk by the Japanese Navy on October the 25th, 1944 during the Battle of Samar in the Philippine Sea. The wreck now sits on the ocean floor at a depth of around 6,456 metres. The film crew managed to go down to that incredible depth and darkness and map and film the whole shipwreck. They filmed the ship from a specially built submersible that can deal with the pressure of the deep ocean. They discovered it was about 30 metres deeper than previously thought. The filming took place during two eight-hour dives.

The explorers are from a company called Caladan Oceanic. Its founder is Victor Vescovo, a former US Navy commander. He has a passion for adventure and for visiting some of the world's hardest-to-get-to places. He holds the record for being the first person ever to get to the top of all the world's continents, both poles, and the bottom of all the world's oceans. Mr Vescovo said the mission to film the USS Johnston was a personal one because that ship and his submersible were made in the same shipyard and both served in the US Navy. He said: "As a US Navy officer, I'm proud to have helped bring clarity and closure to the Johnston, its crew, and the families of those who died on it."

Sources: <https://edition.cnn.com/travel/article/uss-johnston-worlds-deepest-shipwreck-intl-hnk/index.html>
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/apr/04/us-navy-ship-sunk-nearly-80-years-ago-reached-in-worlds-deepest-shipwreck-dive>
<https://www.navytimes.com/off-duty/military-culture/2021/04/02/wreck-of-uss-johnston-discovered-77-years-after-its-sinking-at-the-battle-of-leyte-gulf/>

WARM-UPS

1. SHIPWRECKS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about shipwrecks. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

exploration / shipwreck / battleship / ocean / depth / darkness / pressure / filming / company / record / passion / continents / poles / mission / shipyard / clarity / crew

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. BATTLESHIPS: Students A **strongly** believe countries should stop building battleships; Students B **strongly** believe otherwise. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. OCEANS: What do you know about these oceans? What do you want to know? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Know	What I Want to Know
South Pacific		
North Pacific		
Atlantic		
Indian		
Southern (Antarctic)		
Arctic		

5. WAR: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "war". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. ADVENTURES: Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Deep-sea diving
- Bungee jumping
- White-water rafting
- Climbing Mt Everest
- Trekking to the South Pole
- Camping in the Amazon
- Skydiving
- A trip into space

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. exploration | a. The action of traveling in or through an unfamiliar area in order to learn about it. |
| 2. sunk | b. Do something about a problem to put it right. |
| 3. ocean | c. Made to go to the bottom of a sea, ocean, river, etc. |
| 4. depth | d. A group of people who work on and operate a ship, boat, aircraft, spacecraft, or train. |
| 5. crew | e. A very large area of sea, for example, the Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, etc. |
| 6. deal with | f. How far it is from the top or surface to the bottom of something. |
| 7. previously | g. At an earlier time; before. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 8. founder | h. Any of the world's main continuous expanses of land (Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America, South America). |
| 9. commander | i. The very best of something. |
| 10. passion | j. A person who starts a business, university or other place. |
| 11. record | k. A feeling of deep happiness because of what someone has done or has. |
| 12. continent | l. The boss of soldiers or of a military operation. |
| 13. proud | m. How easy to understand something is. |
| 14. clarity | n. A very strong like or enthusiasm for something. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210406-shipwreck.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. The shipwreck in the article is from the 18th century. **T / F**
- b. The shipwreck in the article was sunk by the Japanese Navy. **T / F**
- c. The shipwreck is over 6,000 metres deep. **T / F**
- d. The shipwreck was 300 metres deeper than people thought. **T / F**
- e. The exploration team leader is an-ex soldier. **T / F**
- f. The exploration team leader has been to the North and South Pole. **T / F**
- g. The exploration team leader served in the US Navy. **T / F**
- h. The exploration team leader is proud of his mission. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| 1. filmed | a. found |
| 2. called | b. handle |
| 3. incredible | c. worked |
| 4. deal with | d. recorded |
| 5. discovered | e. love |
| 6. former | f. built |
| 7. passion | g. named |
| 8. made | h. ex- |
| 9. served | i. perished |
| 10. died | j. amazing |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. It was sunk | a. for adventure |
| 2. The wreck now sits | b. than previously thought |
| 3. deal with the | c. and closure |
| 4. it was about 30 metres deeper | d. on the ocean floor |
| 5. two eight- | e. pressure |
| 6. He has a passion | f. world's continents |
| 7. visiting some of the world's hardest- | g. shipyard |
| 8. get to the top of all the | h. hour dives |
| 9. made in the same | i. to-get-to places |
| 10. helped bring clarity | j. by the Japanese Navy |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210406-shipwreck.html>

1. What is the nationality of the exploration team?
2. In what year was the warship sunk?
3. How deep is the shipwreck?
4. How much of the shipwreck did the exploration team film?
5. How many dives did the exploration team make?
6. What position did the exploration team leader have in the US Navy?
7. What does the exploration team leader have a passion for?
8. How many of the world's oceans has the team leader been to?
9. What was made in the same shipyard as the team's submersible?
10. What is the team leader proud of bringing besides clarity?

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210406-shipwreck.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'ocean' and 'explorer'.

ocean	explorer
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- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• team• sunk• floor• crew• deal• place	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• founder• some• top• personal• served• proud
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SHIPWRECKS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'ship'?
3. What do you think of ocean exploration?
4. What do you know about World War II?
5. What do you know about battleships?
6. How important is it to film the battleship?
7. What might the film tell us about history?
8. Would you like to explore the world's oceans?
9. What is life like 6,000 metres below the surface of the sea?
10. What three adjectives best describe this story?

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SHIPWRECKS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'shipwreck'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you have a passion for?
15. What big adventures would you like to go on?
16. Would you like to copy the adventures Mr Vescovo went on?
17. Would you like to be a sailor?
18. Would you rather go to the top of a mountain or the bottom of a sea?
19. Should the battleship be put in a museum?
20. What questions would you like to ask the explorers?