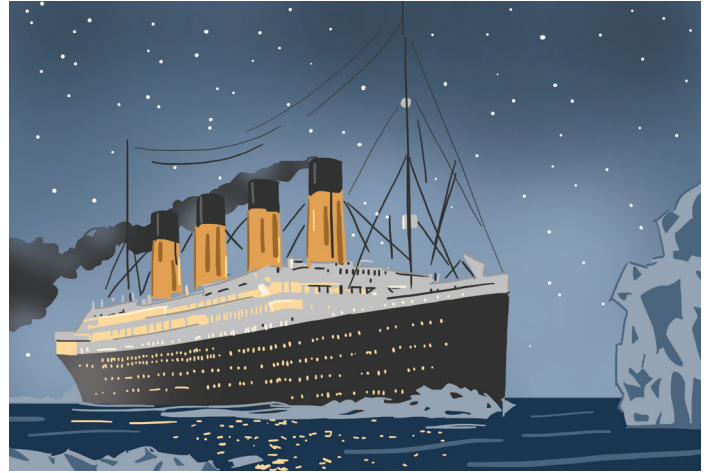


The Titanic

*"If this is discipline, what
would have been disorder?"*

—Senator Smith, on the loading of *Titanic's* lifeboats



Pre-Reading

A. Warm-Up Questions

1. What happened to the RMS *Titanic*?
2. What is a “maiden voyage”?
3. What type of people were on board the *Titanic*?
4. Where is the wreck of the *Titanic* now?
5. How do today’s children learn about this historic event?

B. Vocabulary Preview

Match the words on the left with the correct meanings on the right.

- | | | |
|-------|------------------|---|
| _____ | 1. maiden voyage | a) a film that is very successful |
| _____ | 2. destination | b) very disorganized |
| _____ | 3. emigrate | c) guideline |
| _____ | 4. drift | d) the first trip |
| _____ | 5. iceberg | e) to float away slowly on air or water |
| _____ | 6. protocol | f) to make or earn money before taxes and expenses |
| _____ | 7. chaotic | g) to put a boat or ship into the water, to set in motion |
| _____ | 8. launch | h) to permanently move away from your nation |
| _____ | 9. hypothermia | i) what is physically left after a disaster |
| _____ | 10. blockbuster | j) dangerously low body temperature |
| _____ | 11. wreckage | k) the place you plan on going to |
| _____ | 12. gross | l) a large mass of ice in the ocean |

Quick Facts

Name: The RMS *Titanic*

Nickname: The Ship of Dreams

Departed From: _____

Destination: _____

Date of Shipwreck: _____

Cause of Shipwreck:

Reading

1. The RMS *Titanic* began its **maiden voyage** on April 10, 1912. It departed from Southampton, England, with 2,224 people on board. The **destination** was New York City. Some of the people on board were **emigrating**. Others were wealthy people on a pleasure cruise. The *Titanic* was nicknamed "The Ship of Dreams."
2. Four days into her journey, at 11:40 pm, the *Titanic* hit an **iceberg**. This happened in the Atlantic Ocean, south of Newfoundland, Canada. Boaters in the area had warned Captain Smith of **drifting** ice, but he ignored the warnings. Like most of the passengers, the captain viewed the ship as unsinkable. When he tried to steer around the iceberg, it was too late.
3. The *Titanic* began taking on water immediately. Some passengers prepared to escape on lifeboats, but there weren't enough rafts. Due to the "women and children first" **protocol**, many families were split up. The evacuation was **chaotic**, and lifeboats were **launched** half-full.
4. Two-and-a-half hours after hitting the iceberg, the ship split apart and sank. The water was freezing, and most who fell in died quickly of **hypothermia**. No ships were close enough to help with a rescue. At 4:00 am on April 15, the RMS *Carpathia* finally arrived. Seven hundred ten survivors were rescued.
5. The wreck of the *Titanic* has inspired many books and movies. In 1997, the **blockbuster** film *Titanic* was released. Filmmaker James Cameron conducted research by diving down to the actual **wreckage**. While much of the film is based on truth, the love story between Jack (Leonardo DiCaprio) and Rose (Kate Winslet) is fictional. Cameron's *Titanic* was the first film to **gross** one billion dollars. In 2012, the film was rereleased in 3D for the 100th anniversary of the historic shipwreck.

Comprehension

A. True, False, or Not Mentioned?

Read the statements below. Are they true, false, or not mentioned in the reading? If the statement is true, write T beside the sentence. If it is false, write F and correct the information in your notebook.

- _____ 1. The *Titanic* stopped in New York City before heading to England.
- _____ 2. Some of the passengers aboard the *Titanic* were planning on moving to the US.
- _____ 3. The *Titanic* was off the coast of Canada when it hit the iceberg.
- _____ 4. The RMS *Carpathia* didn't have room for all of the survivors.
- _____ 5. Captain Smith was a fictional character in James Cameron's film, *Titanic*.

B. Timeline

Place the following timeline in chronological order (1–8). One of the items is not mentioned in the reading. Figure out where it belongs in the timeline, and put a star beside it.

- _____ A film called *Titanic* became a blockbuster.
- _____ A 3D version of James Cameron's *Titanic* was released.
- _____ People tried to escape on lifeboats.
- _____ The ship split in two.
- _____ The ship went to France and Ireland before North America.
- _____ The *Titanic* hit an iceberg.
- _____ The *Carpathia* reached the lifeboats.
- _____ The *Titanic* left Southampton, England.

Vocabulary Review

Circle the word that doesn't belong in each group.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1. procedure
protocol
wreckage
guideline | 3. freezing
hypothermia
water
blockbuster | 5. disorganized
protocol
chaotic
messy |
| 2. gross
produce
earn
chaos | 4. move
gross
emigrate
leave | |

Discussion

1. Why does the wreckage of the *Titanic* inspire so many films and books?
2. How do you feel about the "women and children first" protocol that is sometimes used in emergency situations?
3. What likely went through the survivors' heads as they waited to be rescued?
4. How do you think it would feel to live as a survivor of such a historic event?
5. Do you enjoy watching 3D movies? Why or why not? What does 3D stand for?

Pair Work

IN THE HEADLINES

Imagine you were a journalist over 100 years ago. Write some questions for one of the survivors of the *Titanic*. Try to use words from the vocabulary list on page 1. Find a partner to be your *interviewee*. Take turns pretending to be the reporter and the survivor. Share your dialogues with your class. How many words from the vocabulary list did you include in your interview?

Reporter: _____ ?

Survivor: _____

Reporter: _____ ?

Survivor: _____

Reporter: _____ ?

Survivor: _____

Reporter: _____ ?

Survivor: _____

Reporter: _____ ?

Survivor: _____

The *Titanic*: A Luxury Ocean Liner

A. Predictions

What did a luxury liner look like over 100 years ago? Did it have swimming pools, restaurants, and several decks? Could passengers communicate with loved ones at home? Make some predictions.

B. Research

Do a little research about this ship.
What did you find out about the RMS *Titanic*?

C. Contrast

What is different about today's luxury liners?

Class Project

Is it hard to believe that this historic event happened 100+ years ago? Work together as a class to write 100 facts about the *Titanic*. Decide how to accomplish this task. Here are some questions to think about:

1. Should you assign a captain?
2. Will you do the assignment in small groups?
3. Will each group write about one aspect of the *Titanic*? (Examples: the interior, the crew, the aftermath)
4. How will you do your research?
5. How can you present your class research in an interesting way for others in your school?

Organize yourselves so that no sentence is repeated.