RMS Titanic

Travel Poster

Use colored pencils to make this painting of the Titanic full color. What slogan would you write on the poster if you were trying to encourage people to book their passage on the ship’s momentous first voyage?
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Timeline

Read the timeline below and then draw pictures to illustrate events of your choice, drawing a line from your picture to the event.

1898
*Futility, or the Wreck of the Titan* is published. In it a British passenger liner called the *Titan* hits an iceberg and sinks on her maiden voyage without enough lifeboats.

1909
*Titanic* construction begins.

1912
April 11: The *Titanic* departs on her first trans-Atlantic crossing.

April 14
9:00 AM: *Titanic* picks up wireless message warning of icebergs.

5:50 PM: Captain Smith alters ship’s course slightly south—possibly as a precaution to avoid ice.

7:30 PM: Three warning messages concerning large icebergs received.

11:40 PM: Lookouts see iceberg dead ahead about 500 yards away. An attempt is made to avoid the ice, but the iceberg brushes along the side of the ship. The impact is not noticed by many of the passengers.

12:00 AM: *Titanic*’s bow begins to sink.

April 15
12:05 AM: Orders are given to uncover the lifeboats. Only enough room in the lifeboats for 1,178—estimated 2,227 on board.
12:15 AM: Band begins to play ragtime tunes in first-class lounge, later moving up to Boat Deck near port entrance to Grand Staircase.

12:20 AM: Order given to start loading lifeboats with women and children.

12:45 AM: The first lifeboat is safely lowered away. It can carry 65 people, but leaves with only 28 aboard.

12:55 AM: First port-side boat is lowered with only 28 aboard, including Molly Brown and Major Peuchen.

1:00 AM: Starboard boat No. 3 is lowered with only 32 aboard including 11 crew.

1:10 AM: Starboard No. 5 is lowered (capacity 40) with only 12 aboard, including Sir Cosmo and Lady Duff Gordon, and seven crew. Port-side No. 8 loaded and lowered carrying only 39 people. It is steered in the water by the Countess of Rothes.

1:20 AM: Starboard No. 9 leaves with some 56 people aboard.

1:30 AM: Distress calls sent out: “We are sinking fast” and “Women and children in boats. Cannot last much longer”

2:05 AM: There are now still over 1,500 people left on the sinking ship. Collapsible D is one of the last boats left. It has room for 47 people. To prevent a rush on the boat, crew members form a circle around it, with arms locked together, and allow only women and children aboard. The boat is lowered with 44 aboard.
2:17 AM: Captain Smith tells crew members, “It’s every man for himself,” and is seen returning to the bridge. Father Thomas Byles hears confession and gives absolution to over one hundred 2nd- and 3rd-class passengers gathered at the aft end of the Boat Deck. The ship’s band stops playing. Many passengers and crew jump overboard.

2:18 AM: A huge roar is heard as all moveable objects inside Titanic crash toward the submerged bow. The ship’s lights blink once and then go out. Many survivors witness the ship breaking in two. The bow half sinks.

4:10 AM: The first boat is picked up by the Carpathia.

8:30 AM: The last boat is picked up.

8:50 AM: Ismay wires White Star New York offices: “Deeply regret advise you Titanic sank this morning after collision with iceberg, resulting in serious loss of life. Full particulars later.”

1985
September 1: Scientific expedition discovers remains of the wreck of Titanic at a depth of 12,460 feet on the ocean floor.

1995
Production begins on a movie based on the disaster.
Read about some of the famous people that were on board and write a headline and subhead for an article about the disaster.

**John Jacob Astor**

The richest passenger aboard was multimillionaire John Jacob Astor. He was traveling with his second wife, Madeleine, who was five months pregnant. Astor did not survive, but his wife did.

**Benjamin Guggenheim**

Millionaire Benjamin Guggenheim was traveling on the Titanic. His wife and family were at home in New York. Guggenheim and his manservant helped women and children into lifeboats. When all the boats had gone, they changed into their best clothes and prepared to “Die like gentlemen.”

**Sir Cosmo and Lady Duff Gordon**

Lady Duff Gordon was a notable dress designer whose clientele included Isadora Duncan, Oscar Wilde and the British royal family. The Duff Gordons both survived but were called to testify at the court of inquiry and explain why their boat contained only twelve people. During the inquiry they were accused and cleared of bribing crew members not to allow more people into the boat.

**Margaret Brown**

The “Unsinkable Molly Brown” was the daughter of a poor Irish immigrant family whose husband struck it rich when mining for silver. She was traveling home to America aboard the Titanic. She survived the disaster in lifeboat number 6 and earned her nickname because she took control of the boat, kept the women rowing for seven hours, and gave up her furs to keep others warm.

**Isador and Ida Straus**

Isador Straus was a partner of Macy’s department store, New York. He and his wife were returning from a European holiday. Both died on the Titanic. Ida nearly got into lifeboat number 8 but refused, saying to her husband, “We have been living together for many years. Where you go, I go.”
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Word Search

Find the words listed at the bottom of the page in the word search below.

W Q I E B U O Y A N C Y H B C
H R T C S T E W A R D Y Y E A
I L I F E B O A T O I U M L L
T K A T E B P A S D F G N E I
E H J K L D E C K M N B V A F
S J A M E S R R W Q Z X C S O
T R E S C U E T G Y O U I T R
A C O L L A P S I B L E P A N
R N E D B Q C A P T A I N S I
L E R T Y I U M O L L Y B M A
I S K P N Q Y N D L E R R I N
N V M A N D R E W S A S O T Q
E N T P A S S E N G E R W H W
B I U N S I N K A B L E N Y E
T S O U T H A M P T O N U T R
CALIFORNIAN SOUTHAMPTON BELFAST
BUOYANCY STEWARD DECK
CAPTAIN SMITH ANDREWS HYMN
ICEBERG UNSINKABLE RESCUE
LIFEBOAT COLLAPSIBLE
PASSENGER WHITE STAR LINE
MOLLY BROWN TITANIC
RMS Titanic

Acrostic

An acrostic is a poem in which the first letter of each line spells out a word. Write an acrostic for the fated ocean liner.
Titanic’s Lifeboats

Read the following information about lifeboats on the Titanic then summarize in the space provided below one fact that you found interesting.

At the court case that looked into the Titanic disaster, Sir Alfred Chambers said that he felt there were too many lifeboats on board, and if there had been even fewer lifeboats there would have been more of a rush to fill them and they would have been filled, resulting in more people saved!

Titanic carried 20 lifeboats—enough for only 1,178 people. The boat was designed to carry 32 lifeboats, but this number was reduced to 20 because it was felt that the deck would look too cluttered.

Passengers did not believe the Titanic was sinking. Many thought it was a drill and stayed inside rather than wait on the icy boat deck. There should have been a lifeboat drill the day before the sinking, but the Captain canceled it to allow people to go to church.

Lifeboat Fact: