

YEAR 4 - 1912: TITANIC FACTS

TIMELINE:

2nd April 1912

The Titanic began sea trials.

3rd April 1912

The Titanic arrived in Southampton.

10th April 1912

9:30-11:30am: Passengers arrived at Southampton and began boarding the ship.

12:00pm: The Titanic sets sail.

6:30pm: The Titanic reached Cherbourg, France and picked up more passengers.

14th April 1912

Throughout the day seven iceberg warnings were received.

11:40pm: Titanic hits iceberg on the starboard (right) side of her bow.

11:50pm: Water had poured in and risen 14 feet in the front part of the ship.

15th April 1912

12:00am: The captain was told that the ship can only stay afloat for a couple of hours - called for help over radio and they started to uncover the lifeboats.

12:25am: Lifeboats start to be loaded with women and children first. Local boat picked up distress call and began to sail to rescue passengers.

12:45am: Lifeboats are lowered.

2:05am: The last lifeboat leaves the ship.

2:10am: The ship's lights go out.

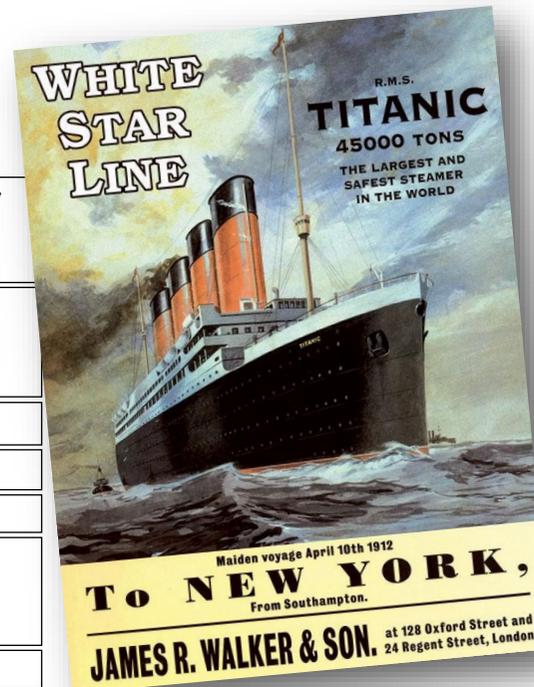
2:17am: The last radio message was sent. The captain announced 'Every man for himself'. The Titanic then split in two.

2:19am: The bow begins to sink.

2:24am: The Titanic reaches the bottom of the ocean.

Key Vocabulary for the topic.

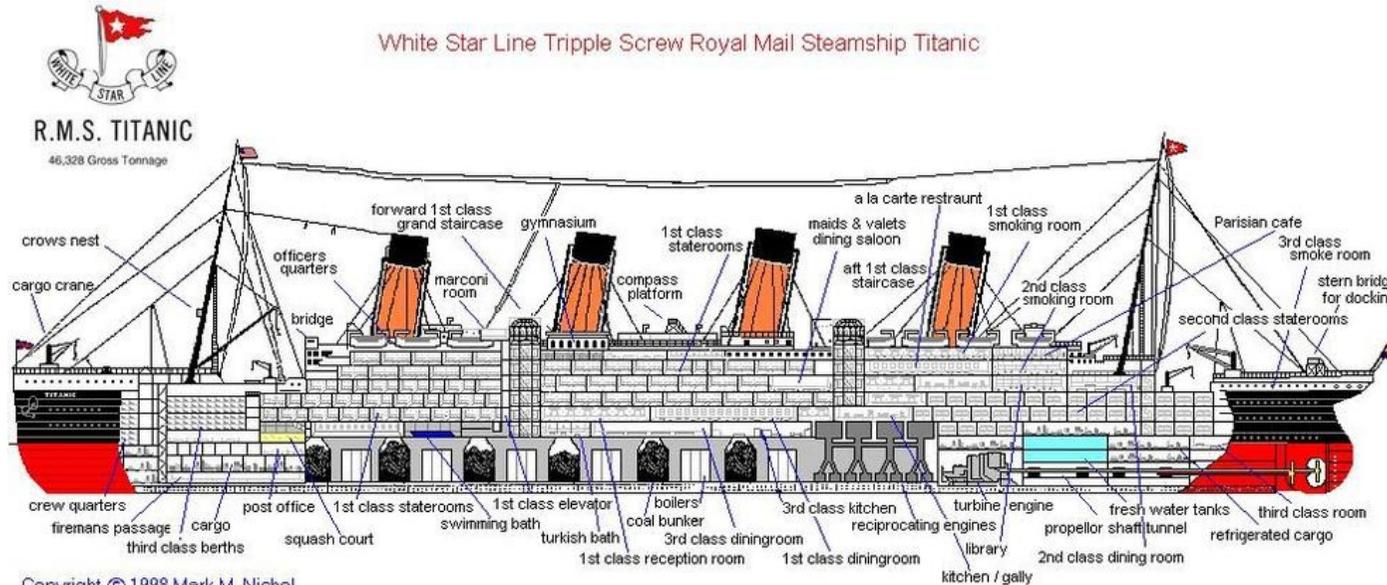
first class	A set of people or things grouped together as the best. People who have the highest the status in society. Usually had money.
second class	A set of people or things grouped together as the second best.
third class	A group of people or things considered together as third best. People who appear to have a low status in society.
passengers	People on board the ship.
bow	The forward part of the hull of a ship.
captain	The head of the ship.
iceberg	A large floating mass of ice, detached from a glacier and carried out to sea.
starboard	The right side of the boat.



Facts surrounding the events:

- 1506 people died on board the Titanic (though there are varying accounts)
- Titanic could carry 64 lifeboats but only carried 20 in order to maximise deck space for passengers.
- 61% of all first class passengers survived. 42% of all second class passengers survived.
- 24% of all third class passengers survived.
- 24% of the crew survived.
- 66% of all third class children died.
- No first or second class children died.

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- Capacity:**
3537 passengers plus crew.
- Weight:**
46,328 tons
- Length:**
269 metres
- Fuel:**
825 tons of coal a day
- Top Speed:**
23 knots

Why Was It Such a Disaster?



Captain Smith

Captain Smith was the ship's captain. This voyage was his last as he was retiring. He ignored seven iceberg warnings from his crew and other ships. If he had slowed Titanic down the disaster may not have happened.

The Shipbuilders

The 3 million iron rivets holding the ship together were analysed after the disaster. The rivets were made of poor iron. When the ship hit the iceberg the impact caused the rivets to break and sections of the ship to come apart. If good quality rivets were used this may not have happened.



Bruce Ismay

Bruce Ismay was the managing director of the White Star Line. He was aboard the Titanic. White Star Line wanted to show that they could make a six day journey. To meet this schedule, the Titanic couldn't slow down. It is believed Ismay put pressure on Captain Smith to maintain the ship's speed.

Thomas Andrew

Thomas Andrew was the ship's architect. The compartments on the ship did not reach as high as they should have done as the White Star Line wanted maximum capacity for first class passengers. If Andrew's had insisted they should be the correct height, Titanic might not have sunk.



Captain Lord

Captain Lord was the Captain of another ship named Californian. Californian's radio was turned off at around 11.15. Sometime after the crew saw rockets being fired into the sky from the Titanic. Captain Lord was informed but he concluded that the Titanic was having a party. The Californian did not help. If the Californian had turned on the radio the distress message would have been heard and the Californian would have reached the Titanic in time to save the passengers.



But were there more factors to blame...?