TEACHER'S GUIDE

Listening activities and suggested answers

Why did Titanic sink?

This version: English | Duration: 10:09 (about 10 min)

Published languages: English, Finnish.

Spotify: open.spotify.com/episode/0C2Ay7gEgY05J8BfibUhLz
YouTube: youtu.be/zc5ODU0AQkg

Introduce the questions before listening. Students write answers after the whole episode. Discuss their answers as a class or in pairs.

Suggested answers are in italics. Accept students' own wording when the meaning is correct.

1 Why did the watertight compartments fail to prevent the sinking?

Too many forward compartments flooded. As the bow sank lower, water could spill over the dividing walls into the next compartments.

2 Why was a lifejacket not enough in the cold sea?

It helped a person float but did not keep their body warm. Near-freezing water quickly took away their strength.

3 How did Carpathia help?

It received the distress call, changed course and came to rescue people waiting in lifeboats. Survivors received warmth, blankets and food.

4 Plan help at sea

The help matches the problem. Lifeboat places help people leave a ship, radio calls for help, and blankets help cold survivors. There is no single correct plan.

Teaching tip: Distinguish calling for help, staying afloat and keeping warm.