

Answer Key**Point of View Practice: Titanic**

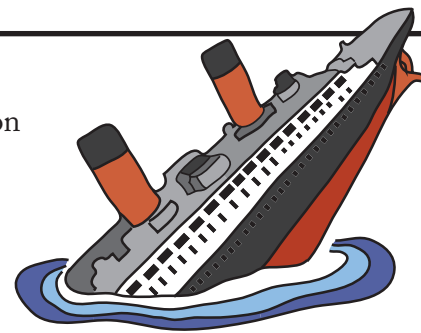
Directions: Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

★ In an informational text, the author shares his or her point of view.

The **point of view** is also known as the author's personal attitude, feelings, or opinion on the subject.

When you read, ask yourself:

- What point is the author trying to make?
- What does he or she believe about the topic?
- What evidence does the author give to support his point of view?



The Titanic's Tragic History

Just four days into its maiden voyage, the amazing Titanic met its tragic end. After several ice warnings were previously issued to the ship, the large vessel struck an iceberg on the night of April 14, 1912. Less than three hours later, the Titanic was at the bottom of the ocean.

Over 2,000 people were aboard on its first voyage, which departed from England and traveled to the United States. This was the largest passenger ship of its time, and it is still one of the most famous ships in history. The massive ship was beautiful and talked about all over the world. However, the ship was not equipped with enough lifeboats in case disaster struck. And disaster did strike. The crew was not prepared.

It took an hour after the Titanic struck the iceberg before any lifeboats were actually launched. Many boats were not filled to capacity before they were released into the ocean. For example, one lifeboat left with only 28 people on board when it could have held 64 people. This was a senseless mistake that cost even more people their lives.

From the time the ship hit the iceberg, the passengers had less than three hours to figure out how to survive. Many passengers in the lower decks were unable to make it to the top decks. There was panic as the freezing water of the Atlantic Ocean entered the ship and began pulling it to the bottom of the ocean.

If the Titanic had been more prepared with lifeboats and procedures for disaster, more lives would have been saved. About 60% of the passengers and crew on board the Titanic died on that tragic day out at sea.

1. What is the author's viewpoint on the Titanic?

The author's viewpoint on the Titanic is that it is an unfortunate event. The author's opinion is that the ship was not prepared for disaster, and that is the reason so many people died.

Text Evidence:

This was a senseless mistake that cost even more people their lives. (paragraph 3)

2. How would the text be different if it had been told from a survivor's point of view rather than this author's point of view?

The text would be different because it would include more feelings and personal experiences. The author who wrote this text was not there, so it is written with more facts. A survivor's version would include more emotion.

3. How do you feel about the Titanic? How does your viewpoint compare to the author's viewpoint?

Student answers will vary.
