

IN THE NEWS!

VOLUME TWO

REM 1998

A TEACHING RESOURCE FROM...



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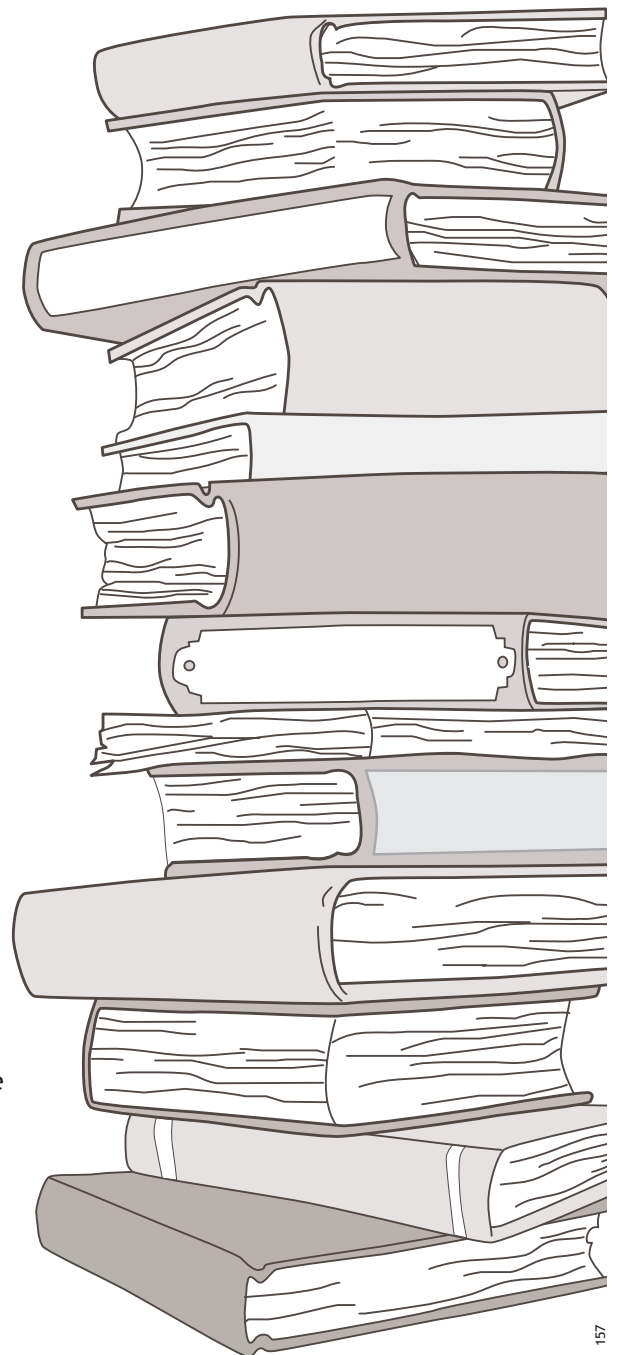
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INTRODUCTION

Selected news articles from newspapers and periodicals published in the United States over the past few years are the focus of the stories in this high interest reading comprehension book. Questions following each story are designed to improve specific reading skills.

A bonus "Use the News" activity provides an opportunity for learners to expand their comprehension, vocabulary, and writing abilities.

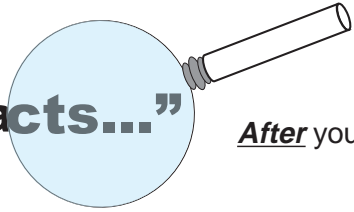
In addition, a "Just the Facts" form is included which requires students to "dig" for the 5 W's (who, what, when, where, why) in the article.

The interest level for this book is 3rd grade and up. Reading ability is on the 3rd-4th grade level. An answer key is provided.

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Name _____



“Just the Facts...”

After you've read the news article and answered the questions... use this page to “dig up” more facts about the article.

1. **What** is the name of this story? _____

2. **What** is the main idea of this story? _____

3. **When** did the events in this story take place?
(BE CAREFUL! — Some stories do not mention an actual date or may list more than one)

4. **Who** or what does this story tell about? _____

5. **Where** did the events in this story take place?
(BE CAREFUL! — Some stories do not mention an actual location or may list more than one.)

6. **Why** do you think this story made the news? _____

7. **What** did you learn from this story? _____

8. **What** new word did you learn from this story? _____

Use the word in a new sentence. _____

Name _____

Use the News



Find an article in your local newspaper. Read the article. Answer the following questions about your article. Attach your article to this sheet.

1. **What** happened? _____

2. **When** did it happen? _____
3. **Where** did it happen? _____
4. **Who** was there? _____

5. **What** other facts did you learn from the article? _____

6. **What** is the name of the newspaper in which you found this article? _____

7. On **what** date was it printed? _____
8. Is this a morning paper or an afternoon paper? _____

THE DAILY NEWS

It's a Small World

(TRISTAN DA CUNHA, 1998)
The Internet is making the world a smaller place. This year the Internet came to Tristan da Cunha. This is an island in the South Atlantic. It is where people live farther away from anywhere else in the world.

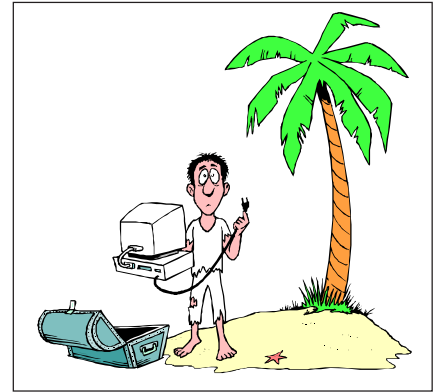
The island is 1,449 miles from its nearest neighbor. The island is just 38 square miles in size. A little less than 300 people live on Tristan da Cunha. They all live in one town called Edinburgh.

The island has no airport and no hotel. It does have a library, a weekly dance, a pub, a cafe, and a cricket field. It

also has a golf course. Golfers share this space with grazing cows. Most people on the island make their living by crayfishing. Mail and supplies are brought to the island six times a year by fishing boats. It can get pretty lonely on Tristan da Cunha.

In January of 1998, Tristan da Cunha hooked up to the Internet. Now they can send and get E-mail. Before this, if someone sent a letter to a friend, it might take six months to get a letter back by ship. The people on the island called it "snail mail."

The island has only one computer terminal. Everyone



who lives there can use it. But the people of Tristan da Cunha will not be "surfing the 'Net." Their cost to link up with the Internet is \$5.00 or more a minute.

1. In **what** part of the world is Tristan da Cunha? _____

2. **How** far away is its nearest neighbor? _____
3. Before the Internet, **how** long might it take for the people to get their mail?

4. Underline the sentence in paragraph two that tells **how** many people live on Tristan da Cunha.
5. **What** do you think people on Tristan da Cunha do for fun? _____

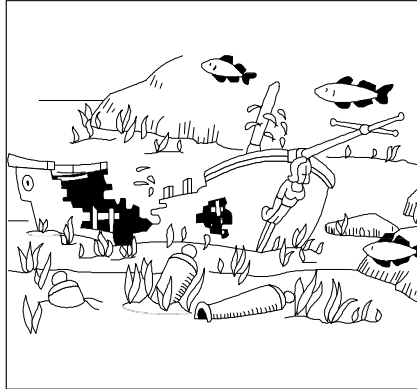
6. If you were golfing on this island, **what** would you have to watch out for?

News Report: How is the Internet making the world a smaller place? On the back of this paper, write a few sentences to explain.

THE DAILY NEWS

Raising the Titanic

(LOS ANGELES, 1997) — On April 14, 1912, the Titanic hit an iceberg and sank to the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean. More than 1,500 passengers on board the huge ship died. The ship probably will always remain at the bottom of the ocean. Yet, all these years later, the famous ship has become even more famous.



Over the past year, people in the United States alone have spent more than \$400 million on tickets and videos of the movie *Titanic*. The movie starred Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet. It

won many Academy Awards. It is now the country's third highest money-making film ever. Only *Star Wars* and *E.T.* have made more money. It is believed that *Titanic* will pass both these movies to

take the number one spot.

The movie has created worldwide interest in the ship. Just about anything still remaining from the doomed ship has value. When the ship hit the iceberg, the crew sent urgent messages for help. In 1998, a collector paid \$123,500 for a set of 34 of these messages.

Some people think the Titanic should be raised from the bottom of the ocean. Others feel the ship and its tragic memories should be left alone.

1. **How** many years ago did the Titanic sink? _____
2. **Why** did the ship sink? _____

3. **Which** movies have made more money than *Titanic*? _____

4. Circle the word in paragraph three that means "sure to meet a tragic or fatal end."
5. **What** did the crew do when the ship hit the iceberg? _____

6. Underline the sentence in paragraph two that tells **who** starred in the movie.

News Report: What do you think? Should the Titanic be left alone, or should it be raised? On the back of this paper, explain your answer.