

What Are Facts?

Facts are sometimes called details. They are small pieces of information. Facts can appear in true stories, such as those in the newspaper. They can also appear in legends and other stories that people make up.

How to Read for Facts

You can find facts by asking yourself questions. Ask *who*, and your answer will be a fact about a person. Ask *what*, and your answer will be a fact about a thing. Ask *where*, and your answer will be a fact about a place. Ask *when*, and your answer will be a fact about a time. Ask *how many* or *how much*, and your answer will be a fact about a number or an amount.

Try It!

Read this story and look for facts as you read. Ask yourself *what* and *when*.

The Titanic

On April 10, 1912, the *Titanic* left England on its first trip. It was the largest and one of the safest ships ever built. Many rich and famous people were on board. They planned to arrive in New York in six days. But on the night of April 14, the ship ran into an iceberg. The iceberg tore a huge hole in the ship's side. The passengers climbed into lifeboats as the ship began to sink. But there were not enough boats for everyone. Only 711 of the 2,207 people on board lived to tell about the shipwreck.

Did you find these facts when you read the paragraph? Write the facts on the lines below.

- ◆ What happened to the *Titanic*?

Fact: _____

- ◆ When did the ship run into the iceberg?

Fact: _____

To check your answers, turn to page 60.

Practice Finding Facts

n. Below are some practice questions. The first two are already answered. You can do the third one on your own.

- B 1. How many people lived to tell about the shipwreck?
- | | |
|----------|--------|
| A. 2,207 | C. 500 |
| B. 711 | D. 947 |

Look at the question and answers again. The words *how many* are asking for a number. There are many numbers in the paragraph, but you are looking for one that tells how many people lived through the disaster. Read the paragraph until you find the words *lived to tell about the shipwreck*. The sentence says that only 711 of the 2,207 people on board lived. So the correct answer is B.

- C 2. The *Titanic* was sailing to
- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| A. England | C. New York |
| B. Paris | D. Iceland |

Look at the question. It asks for the name of the place the *Titanic* was sailing to. Search the story for the names of places. You should find this sentence: "They planned to arrive in New York in six days." So the correct answer is C.

Now it's your turn to practice. Answer the next question by writing the letter of the correct answer on the line.

3. When did the *Titanic* leave England?
- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| A. April 10, 1912 | C. June 4, 1912 |
| B. March 1, 1912 | D. April 14, 1912 |

To check your answer, turn to page 60.



First Sign of Spring

How do you know that spring is on its way? For many Americans the first sign of spring is baseball. In late winter many big-league teams head south. They go to training camps in warm states such as Florida and Arizona. There they get ready for the opening of baseball season in early April.

Each team has its own camp. The players spend long days training and getting in shape. They run, hit, throw, and catch. They learn to listen to the coaches and to work together as a team. They also play some practice games against other teams. These are called exhibition games.

Spring training camps are full of hope. New players hope to stay on the team. Other players hope to have their best baseball season. Everyone hopes to be part of a winning team.

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- _____ 1. For many people baseball is a sign of
A. season C. spring
B. work D. winter
- _____ 2. Players go to training camps in Florida and
A. Arizona C. April
B. Arkansas D. Americans
- _____ 3. The players run, hit, throw, and
A. coach C. camp
B. catch D. kick
- _____ 4. Practice games are called
A. spring training C. spring games
B. winning records D. exhibition games
- _____ 5. Spring training camps are full of
A. hope C. trees
B. bats D. fans