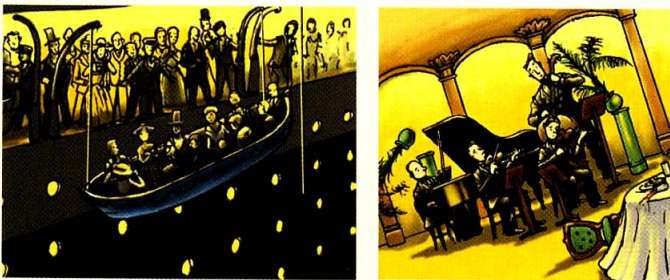
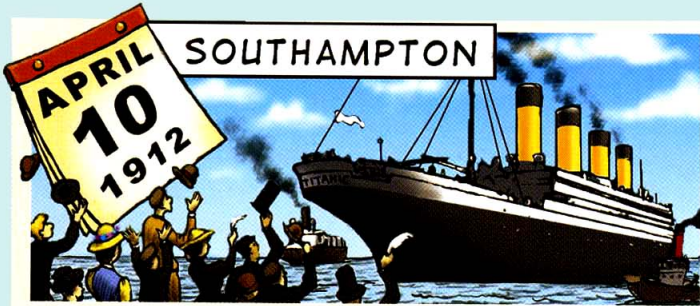




- 1 What do you know about the sinking of the *Titanic*?

It happened at the beginning of the twentieth century.
There was a film about it starring Leonardo DiCaprio.

- 2 Work with a partner. Look at the pictures and tell the story in your own words. Then read **Text A** and match the lines with the pictures.



Text A *The Unsinkable Titanic, 1912*

On April 10, 1912, the *Titanic* left Southampton on her way to New York. There were many rich passengers on board. Everyone believed the ship was unsinkable so she didn't have many lifeboats.

On the night of April 14, the passengers were having dinner and listening to the band. The *Titanic* was travelling fast because the owner wanted his ship to beat the record for crossing the Atlantic. Some ships nearby warned of icebergs but the messages were not delivered. A look-out sounded the alarm but it was too late. The *Titanic* hit an iceberg and the ship sank quickly. The band played until it sank. The lifeboats only saved some of the people. Most of them died in the sea.

People today are still interested in the *Titanic*. The film, '*Titanic*', was very popular.

- 3 Now read **Text B**. Compare it with **Text A**. Which is the more interesting text? Why? Give some examples.

Text B *The Unsinkable Titanic, 1912*

On April 10, 1912, the liner *Titanic*, the luxurious ship they called unsinkable, left Southampton on her maiden voyage to New York. Her passengers were a mixture of the world's wealthiest in their magnificent first class accommodation, and immigrants packed into steerage. The ship was believed to be so safe that she carried only 20 lifeboats, enough for only half her 2,235 passengers and crew.

On the evening of April 14 there was no wind and the sea was calm. The band were playing as the rich enjoyed their evening meal in the sumptuous dining room. At 9.40 p.m. nearby ships warned of icebergs. However, the messages were not delivered. The *Titanic* was travelling at 22 knots. The owner of the ship was on board, encouraging the captain to go faster to beat the record for crossing the Atlantic. Finally, a look-out on the bridge sounded the alarm but it was too late. At 11.40 p.m. the *Titanic* struck an iceberg. Passengers felt only a slight bump and carried on dancing and dining. After all, this ship was unsinkable. In fact, the ship was sinking fast, but it was not until nearly 12.45 that an SOS signal was sent and the first lifeboat was lowered. The last one was lowered at 2.05 a.m., and at 2.20 a.m. the ship sank, just two hours and forty minutes after hitting the iceberg. 713 people were saved. The remaining 1,522 all met their death in the dark waters of the Atlantic Ocean. These included most of the men and third class passengers, the crew, and all of the band. Amazingly, they had kept playing until the ship disappeared beneath the waves.

The ship sank almost 100 years ago but interest in the *Titanic* continues. Books and films have kept its memory alive. '*Titanic*' is the most watched film in movie history. Incredibly, in 1985, the wreck itself was discovered and photographed on the sea bed.