

# THE *TITANIC*

## 泰坦尼克号

When the ship the *Titanic* was **designed** for the White Star Shipping **Company**, everyone was very excited. It was going to be the biggest, heaviest, most **luxurious** passenger ship ever! Even its name makes you think of great size and strength. ‘Titanic’ means very, very strong and **powerful**.

On 10 April 1912, the *Titanic* set off on its first **voyage** across the Atlantic to America. As the *Titanic* **sailed** west, warnings of **icebergs** were sent to the ship, but didn’t reach the **bridge**. So the *Titanic* was travelling at almost top speed when it hit an iceberg. It sank two

hours and forty minutes later. There were 2,223 people **on board** and 1,517 died. On 6 May, 2006, the last survivor to have memories of the *Titanic*’s sinking, Lillian Gertrud Asplund, died at her home in Massachusetts, United States. Asplund, who was just five years old at the time, lost her father and three brothers in the **tragedy**.

One of the most famous stories of the *Titanic* is of the band. On 15 April, the *Titanic*’s eight-member band, led by Wallace Hartley, had tried to keep passengers calm and **upbeat**. The band continued playing music even when it



▲ the *Titanic*



became clear that the ship was going to sink. None of the band members survived the sinking. Hartley's body was later found.

Hartley was considered a hero, and his **funeral** in England was attended by thousands.

The sinking of the *Titanic* has been the **subject** of many books, films and even songs. The 1997 movie *Titanic* brought the story back again and the song in the movie *My Heart Will Go On* is still very popular today.

## WORD BANK



design	v.	设计
company	n.	公司
luxurious	adj.	奢侈的, 豪华的
powerful	adj.	强大的, 有力的
voyage	n.	航程
sail	v.	航行
iceberg	n.	冰山
bridge	n.	驾驶台
on board		在船上
tragedy	n.	悲剧, 灾难
upbeat	adj.	乐观的, 欢乐的
funeral	n.	葬礼, 出殓
subject	n.	主题

## EXERCISES

1. Choose the correct words to put into the sentences below and change the form where necessary.

design

sail

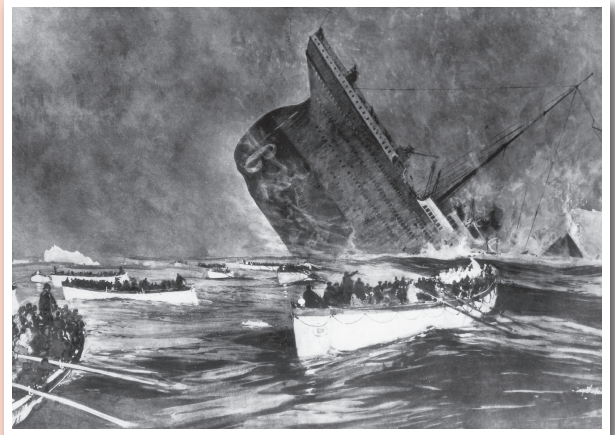
sink

subject

- His mother can \_\_\_\_\_ beautiful clothes.
- A football won't \_\_\_\_\_.
- Tom's childhood memories (儿时的回忆) were the \_\_\_\_\_ of his first film.
- The ship is \_\_\_\_\_ to London.

2. Answer the following questions.

- What does *Titanic* mean?
- How many people survived the tragedy?
- Why was Hartley considered a hero?



▲ sinking of the *Titanic*