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The Marie Celeste

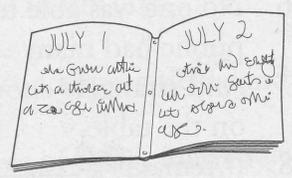
There are many stories about the sea. Some are legends and some are true. One of the strangest is a true story about a sailing ship. It remains a **mystery** even today.

5 In 1872 the *Marie Celeste* started on a trip across the Atlantic Ocean with a crew of ten. Some time later, the captain of another ship, the *Dei Gratia*, spotted the *Marie Celeste*. There was something strange about her appearance.
10 The captain called out, but there was no **response**. The *Marie Celeste* seemed **deserted**.

When the captain rowed over to **inspect** the ship, no one came to meet him. He knew something was wrong, but there were no signs
15 of violence. Nothing was missing and there was no **damage** to the ship's instruments. Even the lifeboats were still in place. And strangely enough, the **remnants** of a recent meal were on the table. Where was everyone? Did all of the
20 crew decide to jump from the *Marie Celeste* at the same time? Or did a monster come up from the sea onto the ship and take the captain and crew away?

The captain of the *Dei Gratia* looked
25 around for **clues**. The last entry in the *Marie Celeste's* **diary** was ten days earlier, when the ship was more than 400 miles away. However,

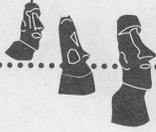
response ≠ question



diary

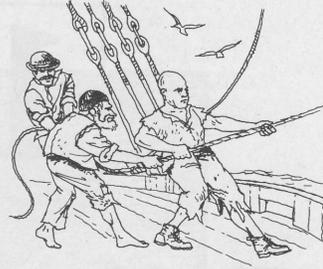


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the food on the table was only a few days old. If the crew were on the ship a few days ago, why weren't there any later entries in the diary?

No one was able to explain the mystery of the *Marie Celeste*, but the public had many **opinions**. Some thought a giant octopus sucked up the ten members of the **crew**. Others said a whirlwind carried them all away. A few people believed the *Marie Celeste* was under a **curse**, because it sank on a later voyage. Now that the *Marie Celeste* lies somewhere at the bottom of the ocean, no one can ever **solve** the mystery.



crew

find the answer

A Vocabulary

Put the right word in the blanks. The sentences are from the text.

- | | | | |
|----------|---------|----------|----------|
| crew | clues | opinions | deserted |
| diary | inspect | mystery | damage |
| remnants | curse | solve | response |

1. Nothing was missing and there was no _____ to the ship's instruments.
2. A few people believed the *Marie Celeste* was under a _____, because it sank on a later voyage.
3. The *Marie Celeste* seemed _____.
4. Now that the *Marie Celeste* lies somewhere at the bottom of the ocean, no one can ever _____ the mystery.
5. When the captain rowed over to _____ the ship, no one came to meet him.
6. No one was able to explain the mystery of the *Marie Celeste*, but the public had many _____.
7. And strangely enough, the _____ of a recent meal were on the table.
8. It remains a _____ even today.

9. The captain
10. The last ent
11. The captain
12. Some thoug

B Vocabulary

Put the right word

inspect
deserted
opinions

1. He looked a
2. The captain
3. There was n
4. Many young
5. An officer ca
6. Although the
7. There were n
8. The school k
9. It was a _____
10. There were s
11. The only _____
12. That family i



crew

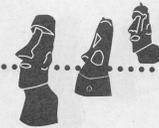
9. The captain called out, but there was no _____.
10. The last entry in the *Marie Celeste's* _____ was ten days earlier, when the ship was more than 400 miles away.
11. The captain of the *Dei Gratia* looked around for _____.
12. Some thought a giant octopus sucked up the ten members of the _____.

B Vocabulary (new context)

Put the right word in the blanks.

| | | | |
|----------|--------|----------|---------|
| inspect | damage | response | diary |
| deserted | clues | remnants | solve |
| opinions | crew | curse | mystery |

1. He looked at the _____ to his car. It was worse than he thought.
2. The captain and _____ were happy the voyage was over.
3. There was no _____ to the teacher's question. The class was silent.
4. Many young people keep a _____ in which they write down all their secrets.
5. An officer came to _____ the burned house. He reported the fire was an accident.
6. Although the house seemed _____, Sally was sure someone lived there.
7. There were many _____ about the cause of the war.
8. The school kids tried to _____ the puzzle of the third footprint.
9. It was a _____. Someone entered a locked room and stole the jewels.
10. There were some _____ of material in the box. She decided to start on a patchwork quilt.
11. The only _____ to the murder were a railway ticket and a locker key.
12. That family is under a _____. Three of their children died in less than a year.

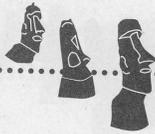


2. The *Marie Celeste* was sailing in the _____ Ocean.
 - a. Atlantic
 - b. Indian
 - c. Pacific
 - d. Japanese
3. The story takes place in the year _____.
 - a. The year is not given.
 - b. 1880
 - c. 1782
 - d. 1872
4. The captain who discovered the *Marie Celeste* was called _____.
 - a. Michael
 - b. The captain's name is not given.
 - c. Captain Nicolai
 - d. Dei Gratia
5. There were the remnants of a recent _____.
 - a. fight
 - b. death
 - c. whirlwind
 - d. meal
6. The last entry in the diary was _____ days ago.
 - a. four
 - b. seven
 - c. 400
 - d. ten
7. The *Marie Celeste* had traveled more than _____ miles since the last entry in the diary.
 - a. 400
 - b. 200
 - c. ten
 - d. seven
8. The food on the table was only _____ old.
 - a. a few hours
 - b. seven days
 - c. a few days
 - d. some days
9. The mystery of the *Marie Celeste* was _____ solved.
 - a. probably
 - b. never
 - c. finally
 - d. at last

E Questions

The asterisk (*) means you have to think of the answer. You cannot find it in the text.

1. What sort of a ship was the *Marie Celeste*?



2. How many crew members did the *Marie Celeste* have when she started?
How many when she was discovered?
3. Where was she sailing?
4. Was this less than a century ago? More than a century ago? What was the date?
5. Who first knew that there was something wrong with the *Marie Celeste*?
6. Why did the captain row over to inspect the *Marie Celeste*?
7. When was the last entry in the diary, and when was the last meal eaten?
8. What is strange about these last two facts?
9. How far had the ship traveled in ten days?
10. Was anyone able to explain the mystery of the *Marie Celeste*?
- *11. What's your theory about the *Marie Celeste*?
12. What happened to the *Marie Celeste* on a later voyage?

F Main Ideas

Which is the main idea of this chapter? Choose one.

1. One of the unexplained mysteries of the sea is the disappearance of the captain and crew from the *Marie Celeste*.
2. The sea is full of unexplained mysteries, and that's why it's dangerous to travel by ship.
3. The *Marie Celeste* traveled for 400 miles without a captain and crew.

The

