Key Concept Questions

What was the Titanic and why was it significant?

What was the Titanic's route?

Was the design of the ship flawed? How did a metal ship weighing thousands of tons ever float?

How was life aboard the Titanic and the disaster affected by class and social attitudes?

How was Morse code used on the Titanic?

Why did so many people die and how were those who survived rescued?

Was it an avoidable disaster? Who was to blame?

How has the past been preserved in the area? Is it ethical to take artefacts from the wreck of the Titanic?

How did the Titanic disaster influence sea travel today?

Titanic

Golden Eagles KCV
Geography/History Year C







Key figures

Captain Smith – Ship's captain. He failed to take ice warnings seriously, did not slow his ship when ice was reported directly in his path and he also allowed lifeboats to leave the sinking ship only partly filled. He cancelled a lifeboat drill and lost the keys to the binoculars. It is believed he decided to go down with the ship and not try to survive himself.

Bruce Ismay – Managing Director of the White Star Line. He is reported to have saved himself before other women and children, but the truth remains uncertain. Made the watertight compartments shorter to make space for luxurious rooms.

Thomas Andrew – Ship's Architect. He was a British businessman and shipbuilder who was in charge of the plans for building the Titanic. He wanted double the lifeboats that were onboard but was refused. He died onboard when it sunk in 1912.

Timeline								
1909	10th April 1912	10th April 1912	11th April 1912	14th April 1912	15th April 1912	15th April 1912	18th April 1912	
The Titanic	The Titanic sets off	The Titanic reaches	The ship reaches	The ship hits an iceberg	After 4m of water enters the	The Titanic sinks at	The Carpathia steamship	
is built in	from Southampton.	Cherbourg (France)	Queenstown (Ireland)	on the starboard side of	front of the ship, the captain	2:20am in the darkness of	rescues 705 passengers and	
Belfast		and collects more		her bow:	radios for help	the Atlantic Ocean.	returns to New York	
(N. Ireland)		passengers						

Kev Knowledge

R.M.S Titanic was built by the White Star Line and was the world's largest and most luxurious passenger liner at the time. J. Bruce Ismay owned White Star Line and therefore was the owner of the Titanic

Construction of the Titanic started on 31st March 1909 at the Harland and Wolff Shipyard in Belfast. It took over 3 years to build. It measured 882 feet (269 metres) long and weighed 52,310 tons. In 1911 Titanic was declared practically unsinkable and a marvel of British engineering despite being the largest manmade object ever to have taken to the seas.

Harland and Wolff employed thousands of men, with over 15,000 working on Titanic. Many jobs involved working with steel including welders, riveters, platers and plumbers. Carpenters worked with wood to design things like cabinets and staircases, while architects designed the ship in their offices.

Ocean liners are made of steel and they float because their density is less than that of the water they float in.

The maiden voyage began on 10th April 1912 with 2,240 passengers and crew on board the ship. It sailed from Southampton, heading for New York City. E.J Smith was the Captain of the ship on its maiden voyage.

The Titanic's engines were powered by pressurised steam from burning coal. The ship burnt approximately 825 tons per day. It had ten decks, three engines and its furnaces burnt through over 600 tonnes of coal. 175 'firemen' shovelled the coal by hand and worked in shifts 24 hours a day. Although Titanic had four funnels, only three were functional - the fourth one was just for show

Life on board the Titanic was very different depending on which class you travelled. There were three social classes onboard the ship. First class - accommodation for very rich people who were given preferential treatment and luxury. Second class - accommodation for those with enough money to pay for comfort. Third class - The cheapest accommodation for those with little money.

A first-class ticket (£300, 000 in today's' money) cost more than a crew member could earn in 18 years.

On 14th April 1912, the Titanic collided with an iceberg whist in the Atlantic Ocean.

Titanic received three ice wamings from other ships in the area on April 14 (one never reached Smith), as well as three messages from the SS Californian, a small steamer that had stopped approximately 19 miles from the luxury ship. Its final waming, sent at 11 p.m.; "We are stopped and surrounded by ice."

Morse code was used on the Titanic to transmit messages from passengers to family and friends on board. It was also used to send and receive messages between the Titanic and other ships, including on the fateful night of the disaster.

Titanic had a great deal of luxurious accommodation, more than another other ship, this added to the weight and made her sink faster. There were 16 water-tight compartments in the bulkhead which were designed to close and prevent any sinking. The compartment doors weren't tall enough, water overflowed and flooded the ship even faster!

On 15th April 1912, the Titanic sank off the coast of Newfoundland in the North Atlantic. 1503 passengers and crew died and 705 people survived. Out of the 900 crew members on board the Titanic, a mere 214 of them survived. The ice-flows made the water very cold. The weather was good, leaving a clear sky, meaning that water temperatures dropped below freezing. Anyone in the water longer than 30 minutes was very likely to freeze to death.

The ship had 20 lifeboats. While the Titanic carried over 2200 people, there were only enough lifeboats for around 1200 of them. They were not filled to capacity. The extra lifeboats were taken away as they made the first-class deck too 'cluttered'.

The Carpathia (another large vessel sailing nearby in the Atlantic) rescued the people from their lifeboats. Another ship that was closer, The Californian, saw the distress flares sent up from the Titanic in the early hours of the 15th of April. However, after consulting with the ship's captain, it was decided that nothing would be done.

The remains of the Titanic wreck sit on the seabed of the Atlantic Ocean, over 2 miles beneath the surface. So far about 600 artefacts have been recovered.

As a result of the Titanic sinking, laws and regulations around safety at sea were changed. All ships must carry enough lifeboats for everyone on board. (1:15 ratio of passengers to lifeboats) Lifeboats drills and safety inspections became mandatory. Radio communications must be supervised 24 hours a day. They must also have a secondary power source to be able to receive distress signals at any time.

Key Vocabulary						
Titanic	A word derived from a character in Greek mythology meaning gigantic					
Maiden voyage	The first journey of a ship					
Transatlantic	Crossing the Atlantic Ocean					
Iceberg	A large floating mass of ice					
Vessel	A large boat or ship					
Collision	When two objects bump into each other					
Social class	A group of people with similar levels of wealth, influence, and status					
Hull	The main body of the ship					
Bow	The front of the ship					
Evidence	A collection of facts or information that suggests whether something is true or false					
Luxury	Something adding to pleasure or comfort but not absolutely necessary					
Morse code	A language used to communicate through telegraph, radio, satellite, or with light					
Wreckage	What's left behind after a destructive accident or disaster					

History and Geography Skills

Use dates and terms related to the period studied and the passing of time. Place events from period studied on a timeline.

Write another explanation of a past event in terms of cause and effect using evidence to support and illustrate their explanation.

Consider ways of checking the accuracy of interpretations-fact or fiction and opinion. Be aware that different evidence will lead to different conclusions.

Bring knowledge gathered from several sources together in a fluent account.

6 figure grid reference - latitude and longitude and depth - include to non U.K countries

Explain the climates of given countries in the world and relate this to knowledge of the hemispheres, the Equator and the Tropics.