**Middle School Reading Article**

***Titanic Survivor’s Locket Found on Ocean Floor (1520L)***

**Instructions: COMPLETE ALL QUESTIONS AND MARGIN NOTES using the CLOSE reading strategies practiced in class. This requires reading of the article three times.**

**Step 1: Skim** the article using these symbols as you read:

 **(+)** agree, **(-)** disagree, **(\*)** important, **(!)** surprising, **(?)** wondering

**Step 2: Number** the paragraphs. **Read** the article **carefully** and **make notes in the margin**.

Notes should include:

* Comments that show that you **understand** the article. (A **summary or statement of the main** **idea** of important sections may serve this purpose.)
* Questions you have that show what you are **wondering** about as you read.
* Observations about how the **writer’s strategies** (organization, word choice, perspective, support) and choices affect the article.

**Step 3:** A **final quick read** noting anything you may have missed during the first two reads.

Your **margin notes** are part of your score for this assessment. Answer the questions carefully in **complete sentences** unless otherwise instructed.

**Student \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Class Period\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Titantic survivor's locket found on ocean floor**

It's not the necklace that Rose threw overboard in Titanic, but a locket collected from the ocean floor belonged to a real passenger, whose story of love and loss could rival James Cameron’s classic.

Gambling chips, a locket, and a cuff link are just a few of the items found in a suitcase that belonged to first-class passenger Virginia Estelle McDowell Clark and her husband Walter Miller Clark, who traveled aboard the Titanic on her maiden voyage. The items and the story of the husband and wife will be on display for a limited time at the The Artifact Exhibition inside the Luxor Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas in recognition of the 105th anniversary of the ship's sinking on April 15, 1912.

The Clarks were on a belated honeymoon in Europe when they decided to book a trip on the Titanic so they could come home early to be with their two-year-old son on his birthday, according to Alexandra Klingelhofer, vice president of collections for Premier Exhibitions, Inc.

"Sadly, Virginia survived and Walter did not," Klingelhofer said.

Virginia Clark later said that when she felt the iceburg hit the boat, her husband was playing poker in the saloon, so she interrupted the game and told him she thought something was wrong, Klingelhofer said.

Walter left the game and ultimately helped his wife into lifeboat four.

"The boat was supposed to lower and gather more passengers, but couldn’t take passengers from the gangway door, so it continued being lowered," Klingelhofer said. "There was quite a bit of room on the boat, so there would have been a spot for [Mr. Clark] if it had worked out differently."

She said in the case of the Clark's items, researchers were lucky to find the initials V.C. on the locket.

"When we are researching artifacts we try to come up with potential passengers we can relate them to," Klingelholfer said. "We checked records, and there were not many passengers with the initials V.C., we thought it belonged to Virginia Clark, who was married to Walter Clark of Los Angeles."

Walter and Virginia met in Montana when they were growing up, and Walter later returned and married Virginia.

Walter's father and his uncle, U.S. Sen. William Andrews Clark, built a railroad that facilitated shipments between Los Angeles and Salt Lake, Utah, with a connecting point in Las Vegas, Klingelhofer said.

The Clark's story and other items from the Titanic are on display daily from 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. at Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition.

***Notes on my thoughts, reactions and questions as I***

***read:***

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***Notes on my thoughts, reactions and questions as I read:***

*This article addresses the following CCSS ELA Standards in addition to those noted.*

*7/8.W.1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10*

*7/8.L.1,2,3,4,5,6,*

*7/8.SL.1,2,3,4,5,6*

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**Comprehension questions – answers may be in phrases.**

1. *Who wrote the Titanic screenplay?*

1. *What, in particular, allowed researchers to identify the owner of this locket?*
2. *Define* **artifact** *as used in the article.*
3. *List four personal items belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Clark that were found on the ocean floor.*
4. *Define* **maiden voyage** *as used in the text.*

 *7/8.RI.4,5*

 *7/8.RI.1,2,3,4,5*

**Answer each question in one or more complete sentences and by providing complete explanations.**

1. *Explain the use of square brackets in paragraph 6.*
2. *Create a timeline of the Clarks based on the information found in the article.*

 *7/8.RI.4,6,8,9*

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[Rachel Feltman](http://www.washingtonpost.com/people/rachel-feltman) September 18 [Rachel Feltman](http://www.washingtonpost.com/people/rachel-feltman) September 18

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**3.**  *Based on* ***inference****, what is a likely reason so many passengers perished when the Titanic hit the iceberg? What do you believe could have been done to save more lives? Cite from the text to support your claim.*

*7/8.RI.8,9*

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***4.*** *How old would the Clark’s son be today based on the facts presented in the text? Show your work; answer in a complete, descriptive sentence.*

 *7/8.RI.3,8*

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by AMANDA SAKUMA and EMMANUELLE SALIBA by AMANDA SAKUMA and EMMANUELLE SALIBA