

Writing A story (2)

Organizing a text

- 1 What do you know about the sinking of the *Titanic*?
It was a huge passenger ship that hit an iceberg.
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. Read Text A and match sentences from it 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.

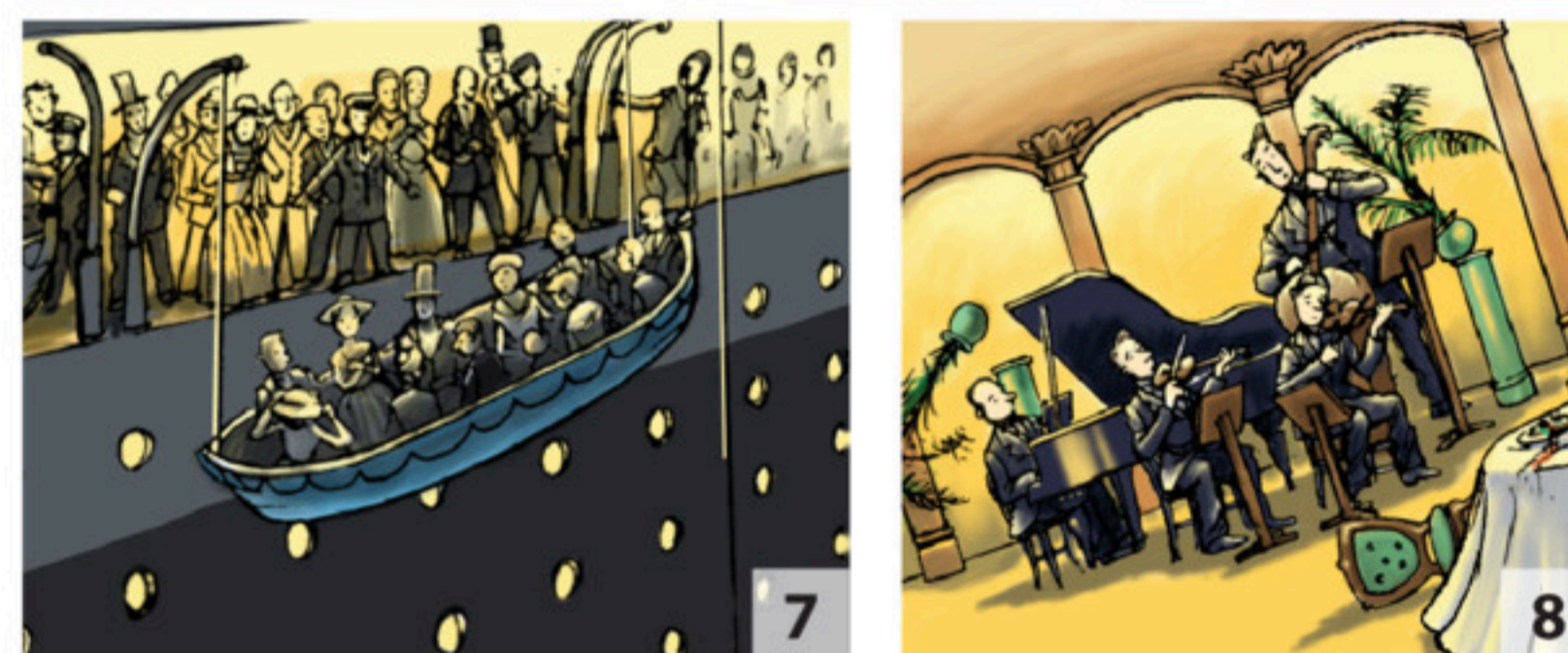
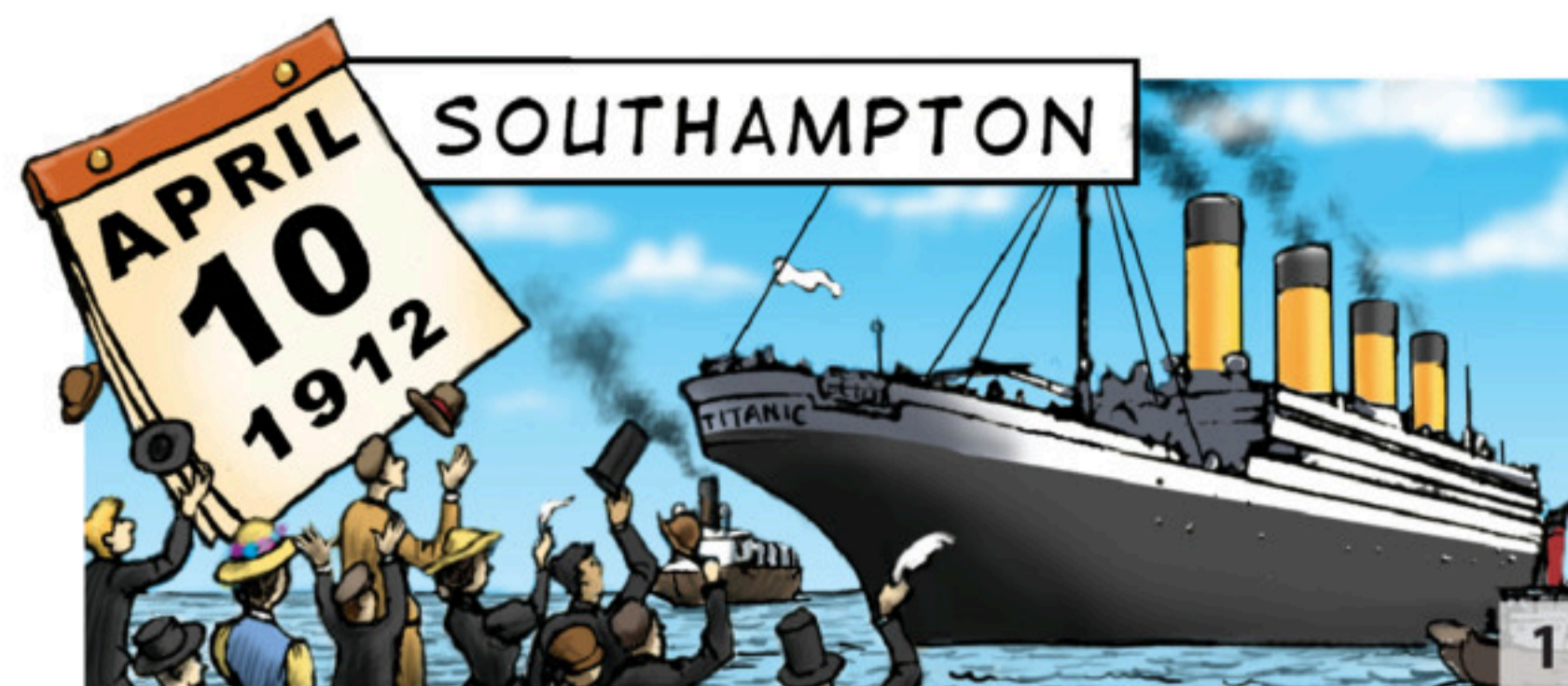
- 3 Now read Text B. Compare it with Text A. Which is the more interesting text? Why? Give some examples.

TEXT B The Unsinkable *Titanic*, 1912

On April 10, 1912, the liner *Titanic* left Southampton on her maiden voyage to New York. Amongst her passengers were some of the world's wealthiest people. The ship was believed to be unsinkable, so 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 luxurious dining room. At 9.40 p.m., nearby ships warned of icebergs. However, the messages were not delivered. 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 carried on dining, after all, this ship was unsinkable. In fact, the ship was sinking fast, but it was not until nearly 12.45 that the first lifeboat was lowered. At 2.20 a.m. the ship sank, just two hours and forty minutes after hitting the iceberg. Only 713 people survived. The remaining 1,522 all drowned in the dark waters of the Atlantic. 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 over 100 years ago, but interest in the *Titanic* continues. '*Titanic*', starring Leonardo DiCaprio, is the most watched film in movie history. Incredibly, in 1985, the wreck itself was discovered and photographed on the sea bed.



- 4 Go through the texts again and discuss the differences in language used. Consider the following:

- What is the aim of the three paragraphs?
- How are the sentences in Text B made more interesting? Which adjectives and adverbs are used?

- 5 Do you know the story of **The Trojan Horse**? Look at the pictures on p157. Work with your partner and discuss how to write the story.

[Go online](#) for more writing practice