

The Halifax Explosion: I Can Statements

1. I can list and provide details about the Halifax Explosion including: where, when and why it happened, and how many people were killed, injured, and left homeless as a result.
2. I can describe the First World War's impact on the home front.
3. I can understand what cargo a ship had been carrying to cause such a large explosion in Halifax Harbour.
4. I can evaluate the verdict made by the Supreme Court of Canada in regards to assigning fault for the Halifax Explosion.
5. I can assess whether or not railway dispatcher, Vincent Coleman, should be remembered as a hero for the actions he took immediately before the explosion.
6. I can explain the damage inflicted upon the city of Halifax by the explosion.
7. I can describe the rescue and relief efforts in the aftermath of the explosion.
8. I can define the following key terms:
 - Benzol: A crude form of benzene, containing toluene, xylene, and other hydrocarbons, obtained from coal tar or coal gas and used as a fuel.
 - Bow: The forward part of a ship.
 - Convoy: A group of ships or vehicles traveling together, typically accompanied by armed troops, warships, or other vehicles for protection.
 - Dispatcher: A person whose job is to receive messages and organize the movement of people or vehicles, especially in the emergency services.
 - Gun Cotton: Cellulose nitrate containing a relatively large amount of nitrogen: used as an explosive.
 - Harbour Pilot: A mariner who manoeuvres ships through dangerous or congested waters, such as harbours or river mouths.
 - Imo: A Norwegian ship that was going to New York to get relief supplies for the Belgian people and was leaving Halifax harbour on December 6, 1917.
 - Mont-Blanc: A French munitions ship. It was carrying a lot of explosives and was heading into Halifax harbour on December 6, 1917.
 - Munition: Military equipment and supplies for fighting: ammunition.
 - Picric Acid: A bitter yellow compound obtained by nitrating phenol, used as a dye and in the manufacture of explosives.

- Port: The left side of a ship or airplane looking forward.
- Starboard: The right side of a ship or airplane looking forward.
- TNT: An explosive used in artillery shells and bombs and in blasting.
- Tsunami: A large sea wave produced especially by an earthquake or volcanic eruption under the sea.