

**The Halifax Explosion Questions**

**Use the “Halifax Explosion (The Canadian Encyclopedia)” handout to answer these questions**

1. When did the Halifax Explosion occur?
2. Describe the city of Halifax during the First World War in 1917.
3. Why did merchant ships travel in naval-escorted convoys across the Atlantic Ocean carrying their supplies and soldiers to the war effort in Europe?
4. What was the Imo? Where was it travelling to? Why?
5. What was the Mont-Blanc? What was its cargo? Why was it in the Halifax harbour?
6. How did the Imo hit the Mont-Blanc?
7. Describe the fire that burned onboard the Mont-Blanc.

8. Who was Vincent Coleman? Do you consider him to be a hero? Why or why not?

9. Describe the explosion. How much damage was there to the city of Halifax?

10. How many people were killed, wounded, and left homeless after the explosion?

11. How did the military personnel, people of Halifax, and local businesses provide aid to the homeless and wounded victims?

12. How was the Halifax Relief Commission able to pay millions of dollars to help those people affected by the explosion? What was this money used for?

13. Do you agree with the Supreme Court of Canada's verdict in 1919 which declared that both the Mont-Blanc and Imo were equally at fault for causing the collision and subsequent explosion? Explain.

14. Why does Nova Scotia send a Christmas tree every year to the city of Boston, Massachusetts?