

Abandon Ship!

Glossary

Word	Definition
wrath	extreme anger
transfixed	motionless or fixed in place

Vocabulary Starter

Word	Definition
drill	a training method where an action is practised over and over
blaze	a bright flame or light
concur	agree

1 Find and copy one word that means “started”.

initiated

2 Where is this part of the story set? Circle the correct answer.

- a) on Earth
- b) on board Jupiter station
- c) on board The Excelsior

3 Find the word “scurried”. Do you think it is a fast or a slow word? Was the crew’s running to the escape pods orderly or chaotic?

I think it is a fast word. The text says that “Like ants at a picnic the crew scurried to the escape pods” – this shows that the crew’s running to the escape pods was chaotic.

4 Are the following statements true or false?

	True	False
The Excelsior is a science vessel.	x	
It has just encountered another alien race called the Potox.		x
The Patax are very friendly.		x
The Excelsior was made for heavy battles.		x

5 Why do you think Captain Holt decides to blow up The Excelsior rather than try and save it?

I think this is because the Patax were attacking the crew and winning. The only way to save the crew was to use the escape pods and blow up The Excelsior. Staying behind to save it was too risky.

6 What impressions do you get about Captain Holt's character from the text? Give two impressions using evidence from the text to support your answer. **EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWERS TO SOMEONE AT HOME AND CHECK THEY MAKE SENSE.**

Impression	Evidence
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7

Find and copy one phrase that suggests that the ship isn't young anymore:

The ship creaked and groaned like an old man

8

What genre of text is this? Why do you think so? Give three reasons for your answer.

I think it is science fiction because:

- It is set in space
- There are aliens
- There is fictional technology

Extension
activity

TO MARK YOUR EXTENSION, READ YOUR ANSWERS TO SOMEONE AT HOME AND CHECK THAT THEY MAKE SENSE.

Ensign Keller's rank is lower than the captain's because _____

Science fiction texts appeal more to older children but _____

The ship went to Jupiter station so _____
