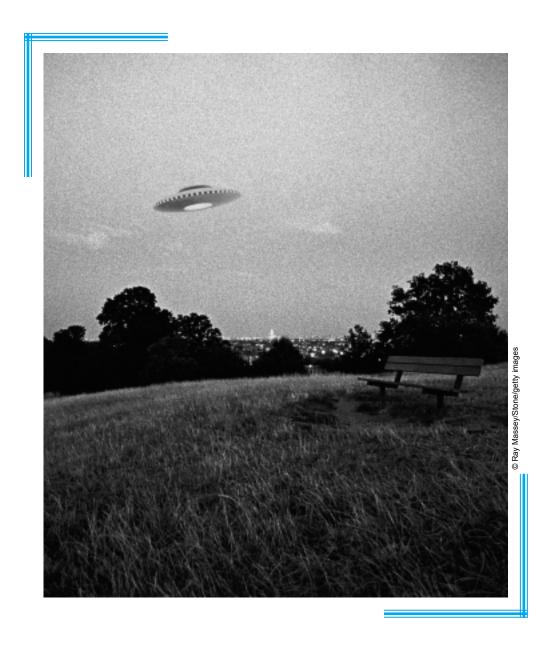
Mysteries

unit 4





Context Clues

Put a circle around the letter of the answer that means the same as the word in **bold**.

1. At midnight there was a loud noise in the kitchen. Ali went to the kitchen, but no one was there. The cause of the noise was a **mystery**.

a. something pleasant

c. something familiar

b. something normal

d. something unknown

2. Juan couldn't find anyone at school when he got there. The school was **deserted.**

a. closed for the day

c. dark

b. without any people

d. full of people

3. Yuri opened his **diary** and turned to a new page. What had happened that day? He thought for a few minutes and then began to write.

a. record of the day's events

c. newspaper

b. list of daily tasks

d. shopping list

4. We could see the **tracks** of a large animal in the snow.

a. ears

c. elbows

b. footprints

d. hooks

5. Sara writes stories and poems about the future. She has a wonderful **imagination**.

a. knowledge

c. mental ability

b. creative ability

d. mathematical ability

6. Lori didn't come to class yesterday, but the teacher didn't notice that she was **absent.**

a. sick

c. not serious

b. careless

d. not there

- 7. That island is very **isolated**. The nearest land is hundreds of miles away.
 - a. near other places

c. far from other places

b. deserted

d. pleasant

8. Most of the Europeans who came to America in the early days **settled** along the northeast coast. Only a few people moved south.

a. looked at the land

c. explored

b. moved in and stayed

d. relocated

- 9. Three **generations** live in my house—me, my parents, and my grandparents.
 - a. families
 - b. age levels in a family
 - c. committees
 - d. important events in a day
- 10. You hear a loud noise when something in the distance **explodes**.
 - a. goes away slowly
 - b. becomes rare
 - c. blows apart forcefully
 - d. moves on the floor
- 11. Someone put a fence around the garden to **prevent** animals from entering.

a. stop

c. help

b. allow

d. encourage

lesson

The Marie Celeste

1



Before You Read

- 1. What are the names of some famous ships?
- 2. What might happen to a ship when it goes across the ocean?
- 3. Do you like to read mysteries?

The Marie Celeste



There are many stories about the ocean. One of the strangest is a true story about a sailing ship. It is a **mystery** even today.

In 1872, the *Marie Celeste* started on a trip across the Atlantic Ocean with a <u>crew</u> of ten people. Some time later, the captain of another ship, the *Dei Gratia*, saw the *Marie Celeste*. There was something strange about its **appearance**. The captain called out, but there was no answer. The *Marie Celeste* seemed <u>deserted</u>.

When the captain went to **inspect** the ship, no one came to meet him. He knew something was wrong, but there were no signs of **violence**. Nothing was missing, and there was no **damage** to the ship's instruments. And strangely enough, there was food on the table. Where was everyone? Did the crew jump from the *Marie Celeste*? Or did something come up from the ocean and take the captain and crew away?

The captain of the *Dei Gratia* looked around for **clues.** The last entry in the *Marie Celeste's* **diary** was ten days earlier. However, the food on the table was only a few days old. Someone was on the ship a few days before, but they didn't write anything in the ship's diary. Why?

There were many different **explanations** for the mystery of the *Marie Celeste*. Some people thought that a **huge** octopus ate the crew. Others said bad weather carried them away. A few people believed that the *Marie Celeste* was under a **curse**, because it **sank** on a later voyage. Now that the *Marie Celeste* lies somewhere at the bottom of the ocean, no one can ever solve the mystery.



empty look at carefully

very large

went underwater

a Vocabulary

Put the right word in each blank. The sentences are from the text. crew diary appearance huge clues inspect curse explanations mystery sank deserted damage violence 1. Nothing was missing, and there was no _____ ship's instruments. 2. A few people believed that the *Marie Celeste* was under a ______, because it ______ on a later voyage. 3. The *Marie Celeste* seemed _____ 4. In 1872, the *Marie Celeste* started on a trip across the Atlantic Ocean with a _____ of ten people. 5. When the captain went to ______ the ship, no one came to meet him. 6. There were many different ______ for the mystery of the Marie Celeste. 7. He knew something was wrong, but there were no signs of 8. It is a ______ even today. 9. There was something strange about its _____ 10. The last entry in the *Marie Celeste's* ______ was ten days earlier. 11. The captain of the *Dei Gratia* looked around for _____ 12. Some people thought that a ______ octopus ate the crew.