

A Strange and Deadly Triangle

Complete the first two components, Pre-Reading Zone In and Pre-Reading Predicting, before reading the complete text. Then undertake the remaining components, from During Reading My Connection. Each component will open the relevant pages of text, if applicable, but you can go back to any part of the text at any time.

Tab 1 Pre-Reading Zone In

Discuss basic information about the Bermuda Triangle, without going into too much detail.

Tab 2 Pre-Reading Predicting

Tab 3 During Reading My Connection

Tab 4 Visualising

Tab 5 Questioning

Tab 6 Summarising

Tab 7 Monitoring

Suitable responses here would be:

Before reading

Read the title first so you know the subject.

Read key headings to tune you into the topic.

Scan the information without reading it closely.

Look at pictures and headings to provide you with ideas of your topic.

Identify key questions and tasks relating to the text so you are aware of information to focus on.

As you read the text carefully

Highlight key information and unknown words.

Check the meaning of unknown words.

Ask yourself, “Could I teach someone else about this topic?”

Does the text make sense? What have I learned? Do I need to read more about the topic?

Tab 8 Word Works

Tab 9 Assessment

The first three questions are literal questions, so the correct statement can be found in the text. The next two are interpretative or inferential questions, meaning that students need to interpret or infer from the text to find the correct statement. The final question is an applied or evaluative question, so students need to apply or evaluate the information from the text to choose an answer, and there may be no “correct” answer.

Here are the answers for the assessment task.

Literal

1. a The Bermuda Triangle is mysterious and famous because many different aircraft and vessels have vanished.
2. a The most famous air disappearance was that of Flight 19 in 1945.
3. c Christopher Columbus sailed through this area 500 years ago and noticed that compasses would spin around and point in the wrong direction.

Interpretative or inferential

1. c No-one is absolutely certain why there were no signs of a struggle and the ship had been abandoned.
2. a The presence of methane gas may explain why some vessels have sunk to the ocean floor.

Applied or evaluative

Answers may vary.

As an additional assessment task, ask each student to read the following text out loud. Then mark any errors and work out the percentage of accuracy to see how well each student can read aloud.

This text is 111 words. To convert to a percentage of accuracy, divide the number of words pronounced correctly by 111 and multiply by 100.

An estimated 2000 vessels and 75 airplanes have disappeared through the past three centuries.

The most famous of these disappearances in the Triangle was that of Flight 19 in 1945. An entire squadron of Avenger torpedo bombers (five in total) vanished. The planes took off from Florida on the coast of America for a practice bombing run. The transmission from the flight indicated that the compasses weren't working properly. As the planes continued to fly, transmissions became increasingly more difficult. Eventually contact was lost and all the planes just disappeared. Incredibly, another plane with a thirteen-man crew was sent out to search for the missing planes and it too never returned.