Title – Why was the sinking of the Titanic a disaster?

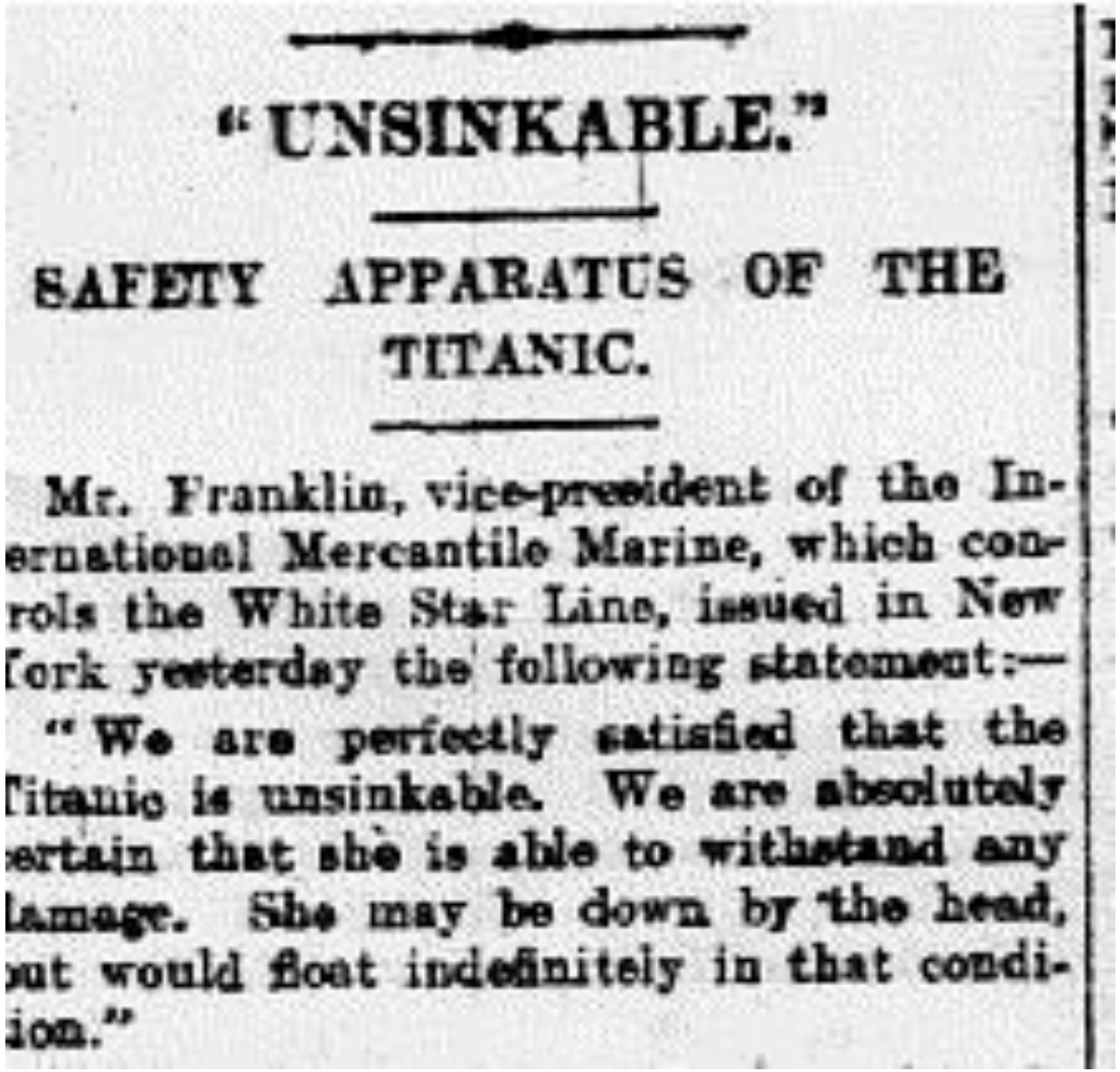
Do now

Bullet point x3 ways in which the Titanic made an impact to Southampton

At the time of her construction, the Titanic was the **largest ship ever built**. It was 230m long, 25 stories high, and weighed 46,000,000 kg.

The ship's modern design and technology included sixteen **watertight compartments** in her lower section that could easily be sealed off in the event of a punctured hull and deemed her **unsinkable**.

Why did they think she was unsinkable?



"UNSINKABLE."

SAFETY APPARATUS OF THE TITANIC.

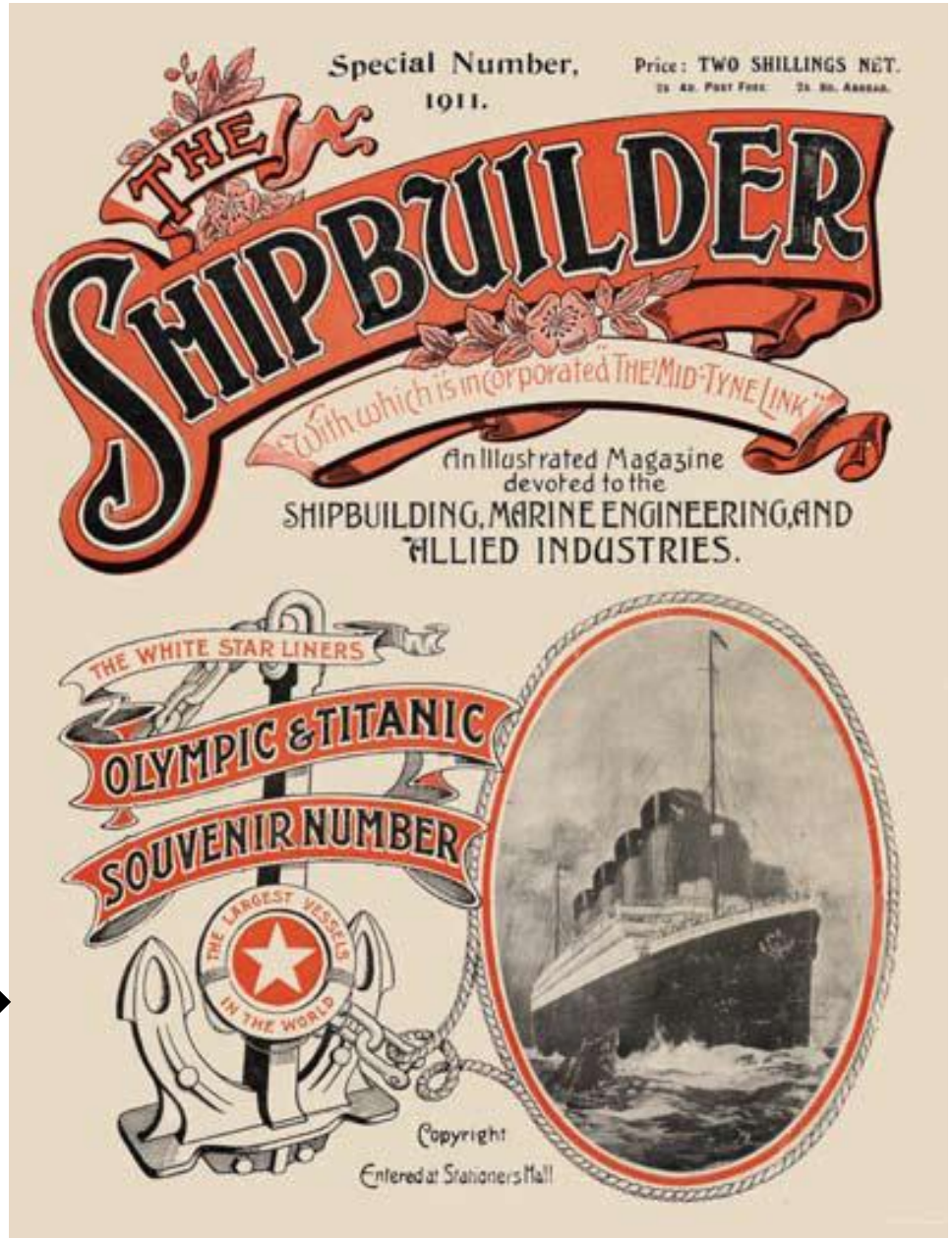
Mr. Franklin, vice-president of the International Mercantile Marine, which controls the White Star Line, issued in New York yesterday the following statement:—

"We are perfectly satisfied that the Titanic is unsinkable. We are absolutely certain that she is able to withstand any damage. She may be down by the head, but would float indefinitely in that condition."

Why did they think she was unsinkable?

- The shipbuilders Harland and Wolff insist that the Titanic **was never advertised** as an unsinkable ship.

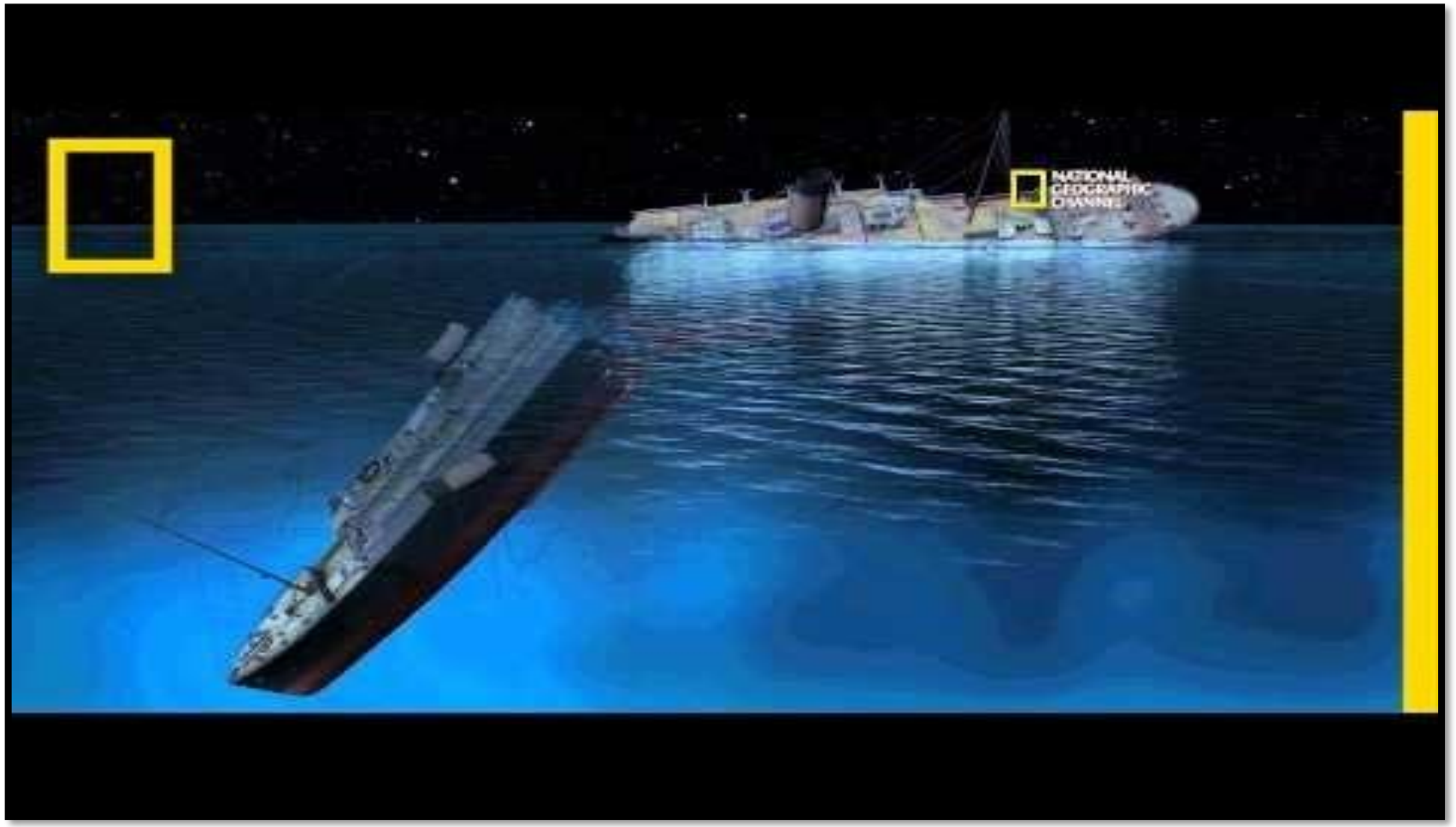
- They claim that the 'unsinkable' myth was the result of people's interpretations of articles in the Irish News and the Shipbuilder magazine. They also claim that **the myth grew after the disaster.**



Yet, when the New York office of the White Star Line (the company that owned the ship) was informed that Titanic was in trouble, White Star Line Vice President Franklin announced:

"We place absolute confidence in the Titanic. We believe the boat is unsinkable."

So, how did the unsinkable sink?



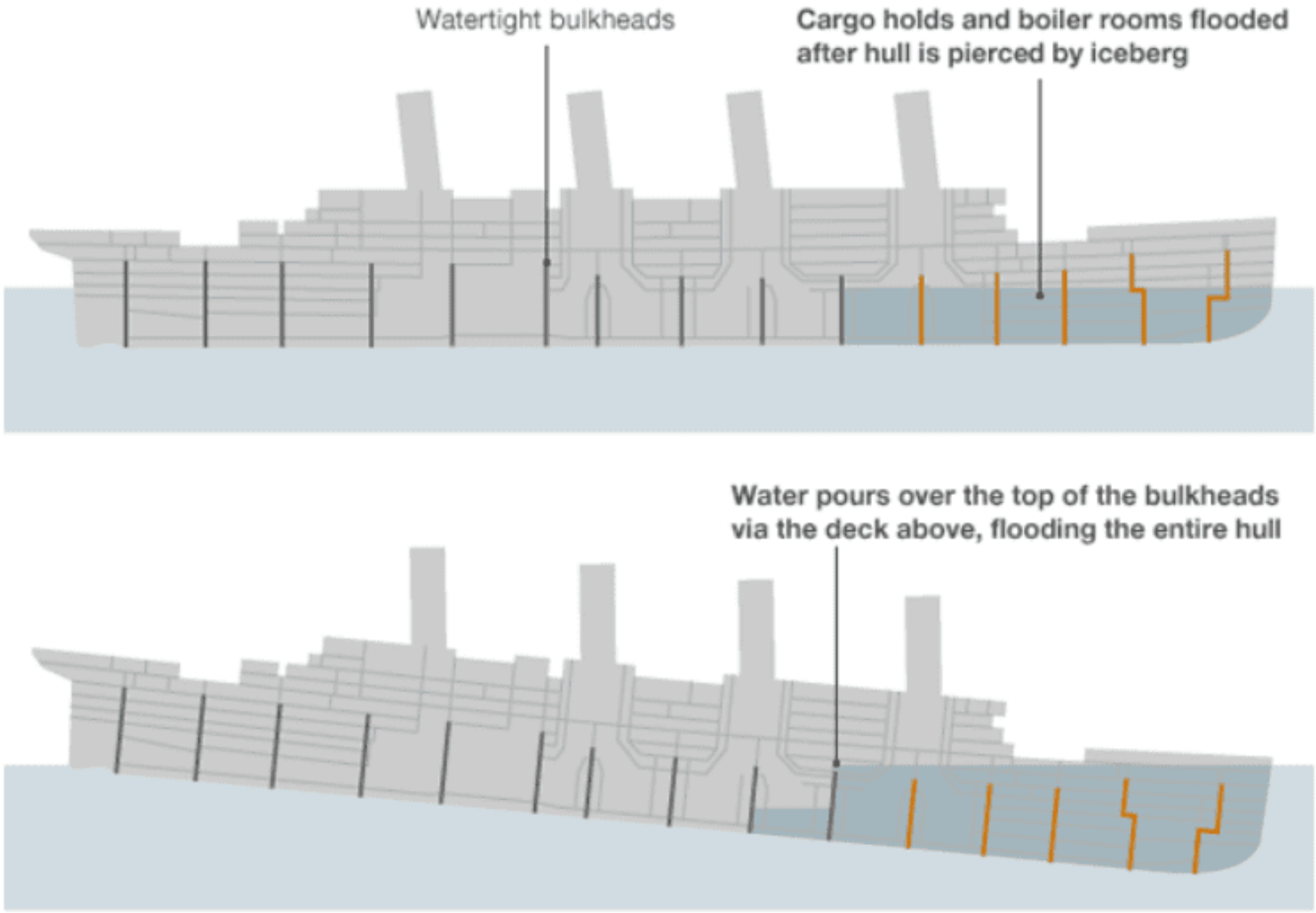
Why did it become such a disaster?

The definition of a disaster is –

a sudden accident or a natural catastrophe that causes great damage or loss of life.

Can you think of another example?

RMS Titanic - key design fault



Task

From this video, mind map as many ways as you her about how unprepared the ship was

1. Why did it sink?
2. Why was it such a disaster?

How could it be argued that this becoming a disaster could have been avoided?

Why was it such a disaster?

Using the reasons you have come up with, along with mine below, you need to do the following:

Categories your points into:

Before departure
During the collision
After the collision

Answer in your books giving multiple reasons as your evidence – **Why did the sinking of the Titanic become such a disaster?**

1. Iceberg
2. Steel Rivets
3. Warnings ignored from other ships nearby
4. Not enough lifeboats
5. Weren't filling up the lifeboats
6. Not enough searchlights
7. Going too fast
8. Other ships had radios turned off so could not hear Titanic distress call
9. Temperature of the sea (-2)
10. No second skin
11. Lookout did not have binoculars

"I thought it would be a safe steamship, and I had heard it would not sink."

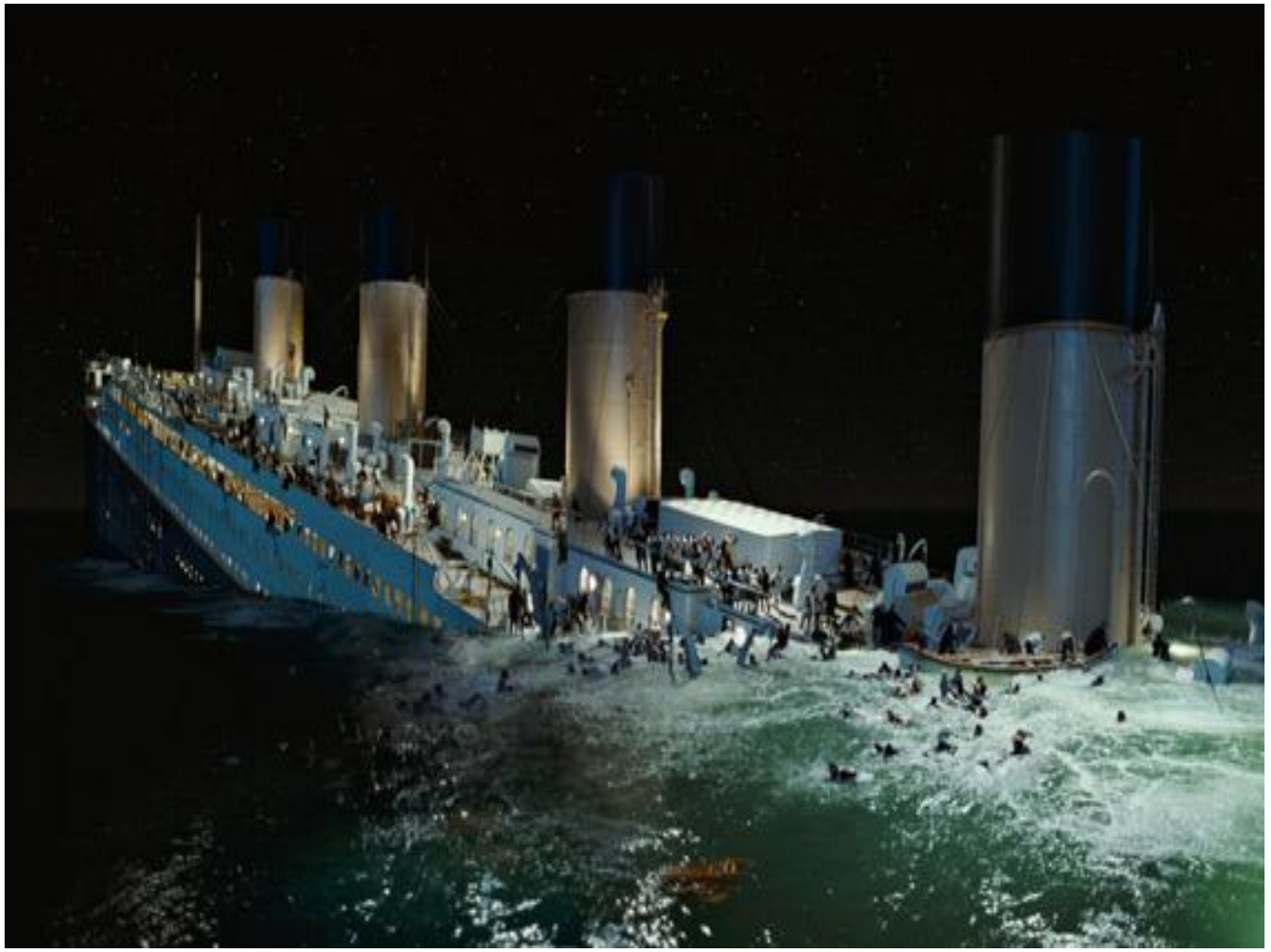
Margaret Devaney, *Titanic* survivor

- Whatever the origin of the belief, there is **no doubt** that people did believe Titanic to be unsinkable.
- Passenger Margaret Devaney said "I took passage on the Titanic for I thought it would be a safe steamship and I had heard it could not sink."

Reflection…

What was the main 3 reason that this became such a disaster?

Support your choices with evidence



Remembering Titanic

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