

Sinking of the Lusitania and War Propaganda

Questions for Students

Question 1: Study sources 1, 4, 7, 21 and 22. How many people were drowned as a result of the sinking of the *Lusitania*?

Question 2:

(a) How did the Germans defend the sinking of the *Lusitania*? It will help you to read sources 2, 3, 11, 12 and 14 before answering this question.

(b) How does source 5 help to support the German argument.

Question 3: Explain the meaning of source 6.

Question 4: Read the introduction and sources 9 and 10 and describe the problems encountered by the people on the *Lusitania*. Can you explain why more women than men survived the sinking of the *Lusitania*.

Question 5: Read source 18 and explain why the sinking of the *Lusitania* caused problems for the English woman living in Acton?

Question 6: Use the information in source 22 to explain source 20.

Question 7: The governments of Britain and the United States used the sinking of the *Lusitania* to produce anti-German propaganda. Study sources 8, 13, 15, 17 and 24 and explain the message being communicated by these visual images. Can you explain why source 24 was produced two years after the other sources?

Question 8: Source 11 claims that the *Lusitania* had "on earlier occasions, had Canadian troops and munitions on board, including no less than 5,400 cases of ammunition destined for the destruction of brave German soldiers". Find evidence in this unit to support this claim.