



**PINES ACADEMY
INTERNATIONAL**



Intensive Reading 1



**English as a
Foreign
Language**

Introduction

Intensive Reading 1 equips students with skills that are vital to improving their English abilities in all aspects. The main purpose of this subject is to provide students with essential information that will aid them in improving various aspects of their reading skills such as pronunciation, stress, and intonation.

The aim is for the students to develop into strategic communicators by honing their reading skills, which is also related with their speaking skills since both are plausible means of expressing oneself. The learner would appreciate more about the importance of communication through reading as a tool for learning English as a second language.

Unit 1: Madame Tussaud's



Many people like to see celebrities, but celebrities don't usually like being looked at – at least, not all day. There is, however, one place in England where you can look at celebrities. This is Madame Tussaud's, the most popular tourist **attraction** in London. It's a museum that **contains** models of famous people, both living and dead, made of wax. It was started by a French woman called Marie Tussaud in 1802. New models are added as new people become famous.



On most days of the year, **queues** of visitors can be seen outside Madame Tussaud's, all wanting to **get in** and see some of the most famous people in the world – kings and queens, **politicians**, **stars**, and even famous **criminals**. They are all inside, just waiting to



be looked at, or talked to, but they won't say anything to you, because they can't.

Naturally, the collection has changed and grown. Indeed, it keeps changing all the time. While there are some historic figures that do not change, others **come and go**, and others are "**aged**" as the years **go by**. The most popular figures in the **exhibition** are royalty and

stars. Princess Diana has been the overall favorite for several years, and other popular figures include Tony Blair, David Beckham, Brad Pitt, and Elvis Presley, to **mention** just a few of them. Another popular part of the exhibition is the "**chamber of horrors**", with its famous **murderers** and its **instruments of torture**.

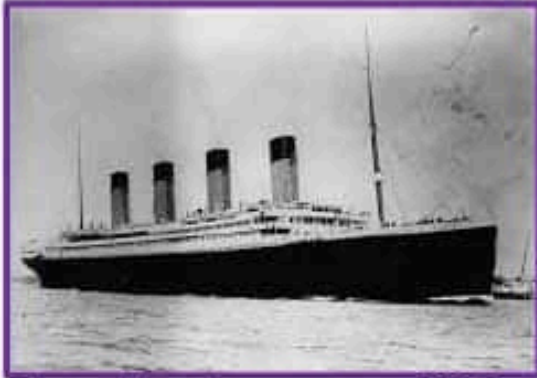
Questions for Comprehension

1. Elaborate the idea of the first sentence.
2. What is said about the museum in the first paragraph?
3. Who started Madame Tussaud?
4. What can be seen outside the museum on most days?
5. What figures are the most popular in the exhibition?
6. Who is the most popular figure in the exhibition?
7. What can be seen in the "chamber of horrors"?

Unit 2: The Curse of an Egyptian Princess



One of the greatest **disasters** of the 20th century was the **sinking** of the great **liner** Titanic. The unsinkable ship sank on a **voyage** from Liverpool to New York after **striking** an **iceberg** off the coast of Labrador. But let's leave the icy cold waters and go thousands of miles back to Nile **Valley** in Egypt. It is here, perhaps, that we can find the start of the mystery of the Titanic, year 1910, in the great city of Cairo.



One day, a British Egyptologist Douglas Murray, was staying in Cairo, when a man he did not know offered a beautiful ancient Egyptian **mummy case**, containing the mummy of the **high-priestess** from the temple of the god Amon-Ra.

The object was over 3000 years old. That evening the man who had sold the case died. It **was not long before** Murray learned more about the beautiful mummy. **Apparently** it had been discovered in a **funeral** chamber in Nile Valley. On the walls of the chamber, there were **inscriptions** which warned of terrible **consequence** to anyone who broke into the **tomb**. Murray had decided to **get rid** of it.



In the end, it was presented to the British Museum. It was **presumed** that that would be the end of the story, but it was not. The **governors** of the Museum decided to get rid of the mummy and give it to a museum in New York.

At the start of April 1912, the mummy began its journey to its new home. Unfortunately, or was it fortunately, the New York museum never received its new exhibit. For when it sank, one of the objects in the **strong room** of the Titanic was the mummy case of the priestess of the temple of Amon-Ra. Or so they say.

Reading Comprehension

1. Where can we find the start of the mystery of the Titanic?
2. Retell the story mentioned about Douglas Murray.
3. What mystery is presented in the article? Elaborate.