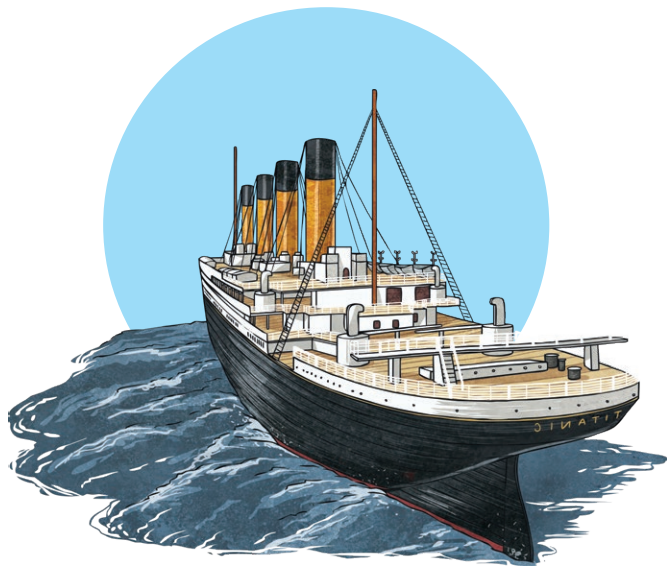
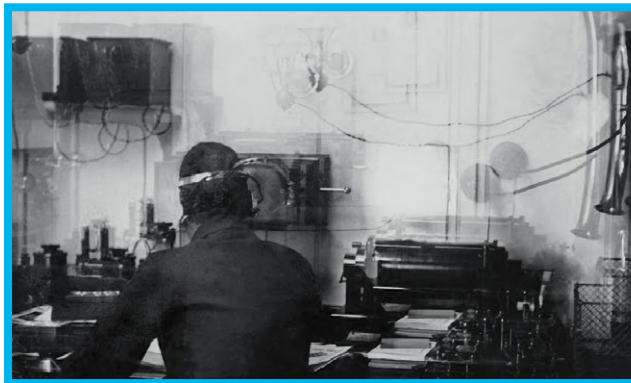


Titanic Morse Code

Morse code is a way to transmit messages without words. An alphabet is made from short or long flashes of light or sounds.



John Phillips and Harold Bride, the Marconi operators on Titanic, received and transmitted messages using Morse code. A Marconi was a wireless machine for sending messages. These messages included communications with other ships and messages sent from passengers to friends and family on land. Morse code was also used by Phillips and Bride to send distress signals on the night of the Titanic disaster.



A photograph of Bride working on Titanic.

Did You Know...?

Arthur Moore was a Welsh amateur radio operator. He heard the distress signals sent by Phillips and Bride through Morse code on the night of the disaster from thousands of miles away. He rushed to his local police station to let the police know but they were unwilling to believe him. Arthur Moore was proved right a couple of days later when newspapers started reporting on the sinking of the Titanic. As a result, Moore went on to have a successful career with Marconi.

Morse Code Alphabet

A	.-	J	.-.-.-	S	...	0	- - - - -
B	-	K	- . -	T	-	1	. - - - -
C	- . - .	L	. - . .	U	. . -	2	. . - - -
D	- . .	M	- -	V	. . . -	3	. . . - -
E	.	N	- .	W	. - -	4 -
F	. . - .	O	- - -	X	- . . -	5
G	- - .	P	. - - .	Y	- . - -	6	-
H	Q	- - . -	Z	- - . .	7	- - . . .
I	. .	R	. - .			8	- - - . .
						9	- - - - .

Translating a Morse Code Message to Titanic

The Marconi operators on the Titanic (John Phillips and Harold Bride) received messages from other ships using Morse code. Can you use the Morse code alphabet to translate some actual messages Phillips and Bride received from other ships whilst on board the Titanic?

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• ■ • • ■ ■ ■ ■ • ■ • ■
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• ■ • • • ■ • ■ • ■ ■ • •
■ ■ • ■ • • ■ • ■ • ■ • • • • • • •
■ ■ ■ • • ■ •
• • ■ • • • • ■ • •
• • ■ • ■ • •
■ ■ ■ ■ ■ • • • ■ • ■ ■ ■

Sending a Morse Code Message from Titanic

As well as receiving messages from other ships, the Marconi operators on Titanic (John Phillips and Harold Bride) also used Morse code to send messages to other ships and to pass on messages from passengers to family and friends on land.

Can you use the Morse code alphabet to write these actual messages sent from Titanic in code? Do you think these are passenger messages or messages sent to other ships? Tick your answer.

1) N o s i c k n e s s A l l w e l l

Passenger message		Message sent to other ships	
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2) W e h a v e s t r u c k a b e r g

Passenger message		Message sent to other ships	
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Creating Your Own Messages

Imagine you are John Phillips on board the Titanic and your partner is a Marconi operator on another ship.

Share a message with your partner using basic circuit equipment (such as a buzzer or light bulb). Each dot represents a short sound or flick of light, while each dash represents a longer sound or pulse.

Use the lines below to help you write your message in a sentence and then in Morse code before you share it with your partner.
















Can your partner record your Morse code and decode your message?

[illegible]

Translating a Morse Code Message to Titanic - **Answers**

- 1) West bound steamers report bergs
- 2) Large quantities of field ice today

Sending a Morse Code Message from Titanic - **Answers**


N o
      
s i c k n e s s
  
A l l
   
w e l l

Passenger message		Message sent to other ships	
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• ■ ■ •
W e
• • • • • • ■ • • • ■ •
h a v e
• • • ■ • ■ • • • ■ ■ • ■ • ■ • ■ • ■
s t r u c k
• ■
a
■ • • • • • • ■ • ■ • ■ ■ •
b e r g

Passenger message		Message sent to other ships	✓
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