Student _____

Pr.T.-3 WB p.23 M-2 **READING TASK** (Multiple choice)

# Welcome Aboard but Beware!

RMs *Queen Mary* is a floating piece of history, full of great stories about her travels. However, some of those who try to tell these stories are not your usual historians. In fact, they are not even alive. They are ghosts! Yes many people believe that the *Queen Mary* is a haunted ship.

The construction of this 305 metre-long ship began in 1930 in a British shipyard. The Queen Mary made her first journey as a luxury passenger liner in 1936. As a luxury liner the *Queen Mary* hosted many famous people from royalty to film stars. The British temporarily stopped her passenger service from 1940 to 1946 due to the Second World War. However, in World War II she served as a transport ship for troops to various military campaigns. Due to her great speed she was able to outrace enemy submarines. Towards the end of the war, she also transported 20,000 wartime brides and their babies to the US and Canada. During wartime the British army painted the massive ship grey so she could go unnoticed by enemy ships. Hence she earned the nickname the 'Grey Ghost'. At the end of the war the mighty ship returned to work as a luxury cruise liner until her last voyage in 1967 to Long beach, California where the British sold her to the Americans. Stories of ghosts on board were already common and the Americans permanently docked the ship in Long Beach. Today, it acts as museum and a luxury hotel.

In the past 60 years, the ship has had 49 reported deaths on board. There are reports of as many as 150 ghosts on the ship, making the *Queen Mary* one of the most haunted places in the world. Some of the more famous haunted areas include the ship's swimming pools, where many visitors report sightings of women ghosts and sounds of voices and splashing coming from the pool. Various visitors to the ship describe seeing ghost children in the forward storage rooms. Guests to the hotel often see a beautiful woman ghost in a white gown dancing in the Queen's Salon. At the bottom of the ship in the engine room there is 'door number 13'. It was the site of an unlucky accident where a young crewman by the name of John Pedder died. Door number 13 crushed him and visitors often witness Pedder's ghost running towards the door and then disappearing. Another very popular haunted spot on the ship is room B340. An unsolved murder occurred there years ago. Due to the strange activities that occur in the room, the hotel no longer offers it to visitors.

Chances of seeing a ghost are quite high on the *Queen Mary* and it is one of the reasons so many tourists visit the famous ship every year. The ghosts of the past await visitors who dare to board the 'Grey Ghost' and learn about its amazing stories.

## *Reading Task (Multiple Choice)*

**Read the text. For each question choose the right answer *A*, *B*, *C* or *D*.**

**1** The Queen Mary Ship first sailed in

- **A** 1930.
- **B** 1936.
- **C** 1940.
- **D** 1946.

**2** During WWII the Queen Mary

- **A** was the home to many famous people.
- **B** fought enemy submarines.
- **C** carried soldiers to different locations.
- **D** returned soldiers to the US and Canada.

**3** The Queen Mary got the name the 'Grey Ghost'

- **A** because of reports of various ghosts on board.
- **B** due to the way the British disguised her in the war.
- **C** because of her large size and slow speed.
- **D** from the Americans as a new name for a hotel.

**Write sentences form the text to prove your answers**

1)

2)

3)

**4** There are many reports of ghost children in 4)

**A** the storage areas.

**B** the swimming pools.

**C** the Queen's Salon.

**D** the engine room.

**5** 'Door number 13' is a haunted area because 5)

**A** an unsolved murder took place there.

**B** someone murdered a crewman there.

**C** the door accidentally killed a crewman.

**D** a beautiful young woman died there.

**6** The text is typical of

**A** a history book.

**B** a travel advert.

**C** a newspaper article.

**D** a mystery novel.