

Level: B2: Upper Intermediate

Skill: Grammar



Complete the text with the correct preposition

265-year-old love letters opened for first time



265 years, 104 letters written to French sailors _____ their loved ones sat _____ a shelf in a government building in the U.K. They were never opened, _____ recently. They were read for the first time in two and a half centuries. The letters were on the French warship Galatée. The ship was captured _____ the British Navy in 1758 _____ the Seven Years' War of 1756-1763. The sailors on the Galatée were captured before they had time to open and read their mail. The letters were taken to London, where they were put _____ storage and forgotten _____, gathering dust. An academic from Cambridge University said the letters were _____ an archive in London. He said many _____ them were love letters.

A group _____ academics read and studied the letters. Lead researcher Renaud Morieux said the messages provided a rare and unique look history. The writers were from poor people and rich people; _____ fiancés, parents, siblings and wives. The writing showed the differences levels of literacy _____ h the classes of French society. Professor Morieux said the letters were important documents. He said: "They reveal how we all cope _____ major life challenges... _____ pandemics or wars. We have to work out how to stay in touch, how to care people, and how to keep passion alive. Today, we have Zoom. _____ the 18th century, people only had letters, but what they wrote feels very familiar."