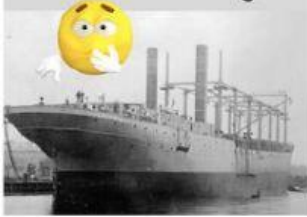


# The Bermuda Triangle

The USS Cyclops  
And Its 309 Crew  
Members Vanished  
Without A Trace -  
Inside The  
Bermuda Triangle



The Bermuda Triangle, a region of the Atlantic Ocean defined roughly (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the area between Florida, Puerto Rico, and Bermuda, is a hotspot of legend and mystery for navigators and writers (2) \_\_\_\_\_.

Countless airplane and ship disappearances have been credited to the ominous forces of the Bermuda Triangle. (3) \_\_\_\_\_ before the Triangle even had a name, William Shakespeare was inspired by the stories of this Caribbean mystery when he wrote one of his most famous plays, "The Tempest".

(4) \_\_\_\_\_ the long history of wrecks and disappearances in this patch of ocean, story and myth persist around the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ why the Bermuda Triangle claims so many tragedies. Few can decide which tale to believe.

One (6) \_\_\_\_\_ explosive theory points to the geochemical action of methane gas on the seafloor. When soils on the seafloor shift, methane gas that was trapped (7) \_\_\_\_\_ can erupt in a flurry of bubbles.

Some theorize that the "bubbly" ocean water from such a release could decrease the density of the water, making it harder for a (8) \_\_\_\_\_ ship to stay afloat. If the highly flammable methane gas could (9) \_\_\_\_\_ into the atmosphere, some believe that a passing plane could explode from the (10) \_\_\_\_\_ of the plane engines with the methane. This theory would explain why so many ships and airplanes (11) \_\_\_\_\_ to disappear without a trace in the Bermuda Triangle. Unfortunately, the enormous distances the methane gas would have to travel from seafloor to atmosphere cast (12) \_\_\_\_\_ on the feasibility of this theory.

Some blame the Bermuda Triangle's turbulent history on the perilous Sargasso Sea that lies within the Triangle's boundaries. This sea is (13) \_\_\_\_\_ in that its borders are defined not by land, but by the (14) \_\_\_\_\_ currents that surround it. In the middle of these currents, the still, nearly windless waters harbor dense mats of floating (15) \_\_\_\_\_. It's no wonder that even today, abandoned ships are found trapped by coiling plants. With no winds to move ships safely onwards, the Sargasso Sea has long posed a (16) \_\_\_\_\_ to ships that rely on the power of the winds for propulsion and steering. While the Sargasso Sea may explain some of the dangers ships face when navigating the Bermuda Triangle, it fails to account

for the dozens of planes and ships that have disappeared without a (17) \_\_\_\_\_.

Skeptics claim that the disappearances of the Bermuda Triangle are unremarkable when the physical and weather-based challenges travelers (18) \_\_\_\_\_ in this portion of the ocean are considered. The Triangle is prone to storms and hurricanes that can confuse navigators and cause equipment to malfunction.

Some parts of the Triangle are full of sharp coral that can rip holes in ships and cause them to (19) \_\_\_\_\_.

Deep pockets and trenches in the ocean floor may hide the remains of (20) \_\_\_\_\_ that are commonly believed to have disappeared without a trace. Whatever the true cause of the Bermuda Triangle tragedies, this area will indisputably be a source of lore and intrigue for years to come.

ALIKE	AS	DANGER	DESPITE	DOUBT	FACE
HOWEVER	INTERACTION	LIKE		LONG	ON
PASSING	POWERFUL	RAISE	RATHER		REASON
RISE	SEAWEED	SEEM	SINK		TRACE
UNDERNEATH	UNIQUE	WRECKAGES			