

Conclusions and Generalizations

Read the selection below.

Andrew at Sea

Andrew had dreamed of going to sea, but not like this. His mother had booked passage for them on a luxury ship. They would be sailing across the Atlantic in a ship that looked like a floating hotel!

"I was thinking more of a pirate ship," Andrew grumbled. "I was hoping for adventure on the high seas."

Andrew did have to admit that having the run of the ship was good fun. He found a group of scruffy boys playing marbles down in Third Class. One named Gil let him borrow a shooter.

"Gil," said Andrew, "let's meet up tonight. I can sneak you up to First Class."

Gil and Andrew met at 11:30.

Andrew was slipping Gil past a barrier when they felt the ship shudder and creak.

"We've hit something," said Andrew. Chunks of ice showered down on the boys as they slid across the deck. Sure enough, the ship had collided with an iceberg.

Decades later, Gil and Andrew got together to remember that night.

"I'll never forget the look on your mother's face when we found her," said Gil. "She was so relieved."

Andrew chuckled. "That doomed ship was my one and only voyage, and I've happily stayed on land ever since!"

In the Four-Square Map below, write details from the selection. Use the details to write a conclusion about Andrew in the center section.

Detail		Detail
	Conclusion:	
Detail		Detail

Conclusions and Generalizations

Read the selection below.

Storm at Sea

“Batten down the hatches, boys. The gale force is upon us!” The captain shouted orders as he staggered across the deck. It was nearly impossible to stay upright as the vessel pitched and tossed like a loose cork bobbing in a tub. I thought of the ballast of stone and wondered at how light and breezy we seemed as the wind increased. What would the teeth of the storm bring?

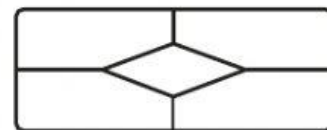
“Get below,” the captain bellowed, motioning wildly.

Had he determined our fate? Were we heading for port through a thicket of fog, where we were bound to capsize on the rocks? Or were we staying put to let the storm pass over us, leaving us battered and buffeted but upright? That is, if we didn’t sink, which at the moment seemed likely.

Just then a huge wave rose up to the height of the spar in the main mast. I lunged for the opening in the deck, diving headfirst down the hatch as the sea chased behind me, crashing and roaring. My own fear was reflected in the pale, stricken faces of my crewmates, clinging to the sides of the ship, clinging to life. We tumbled and swayed, neither daring nor able to climb above deck.

And then the storm swept past. Those of us crouched in the hold climbed up onto the deck to find calm seas and clear skies. There was no sign of the captain or the first mate. Once we reached our home port, we unloaded. Then we made repairs and made ready for a new captain who would steer us back out to sea.

Use a Four-Square Map like the one shown here to help you draw a conclusion about the text. Use the Four-Square Map to answer the questions that follow.



1. What can you conclude about the captain and the first mate?

2. What generalization can you make about sailors like the ones in the selection?
