

Chain Reaction

Post-reading activity

1. The *Independence of the Seas* is the biggest cruise ship in the world and it has much to offer. Can you guess some of the facilities you have available on board?

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____



Now look at the following footage from *The One Show* about the *Independence of the Seas* in <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y9ygZis6Vtk>

2. Below are a few excerpts from the footage. Fill in the gaps with the missing words. There is always a small word box to help you out.

Getting to know *Independence of the Seas*. Join us...

Excerpt 1

- | |
|---------------|
| innovations |
| cruising |
| restaurants |
| ports |
| passengers |
| Mediterranean |
| entertainment |
| sea |

Carol Thatcher: There are a lot of wow factor (1) _____ on board this ship which I'd never thought I'd see at sea. A stunning ice rink, a boxing ring, 8 (2) _____, massive chandeliers and I'm delighted to report for the thirsty (3) _____ a choice of 13 bars.

One TV Show: That's quite a bar crawl you could do there Carol, if you're so minded to. You're a (4) _____ type of person yourself?

Carol Thatcher: I do enjoy it, I'll tell you why. This ships operates out of Southampton, as many of them do, so you don't have to battle your way to Terminal 5, which is a blast these days. And, you know, you can stop in a few (5) _____ around the (6) _____. It's actually quite relaxing. There's loads to do; the (7) _____ is quite good; plenty of fresh (8) _____ air.

Are you curious about this ship? Let's find out some more about it. Turn the page...
and WELCOME inside the ship...

Excerpt 2

- 24
- propellers
- climbing
- 4375
- ship
- technology
- Bridge
- 62430
- board
- luxury

One TV Show: Carol has been there on (9) _____ all day, so let's take a look at what she's seen so far.

Carol Thatcher: This really is a (10) _____ of extremes. Size and scale allow more on board than any passenger line has seen before. It oozes (11) _____. There were (12) _____ squares feet of windows. The best view of all is from up here, the (13) _____. It's crammed full of cutting edge (14) _____.

Carol Thatcher: Captain, what's this ship like to drive?

Captain Teo Strazic: You definitely don't want to scratch it; you don't want to have any dust on it. You keep polishing and making it pretty, but also very careful when you draw it. I have convenient use of the (15) _____. They can turn round 360°. She's quite fast; she can do (16) _____ knots.

Carol Thatcher: Not bad when you think it's going to have (17) _____ guests on board when it's full.

Can you believe it? There's even a (18) _____ wall. And this is a true first. Never before has a cruise ship had a surf pool on board.

Cruising in Britain has always been a passion for many. Let's find out whether the situation has changed, or not, over the last couple of years.

Excerpt 3

- up
- families
- lines
- helipad
- Brits
- accessible
- cruising

Carol Thatcher: Hello again from the ship's (19) _____. I'm here with the travel journalist, Kelly Ranson, who specialises in (20) _____. Kelly, it seems to me flavour of the month, cruising, at the moment.

Kelly Ranson: Cruising is definitely flavour of the month, at the moment, especially there has been a number of other cruise (21) _____ having high profile launches, and the Passenger Shipping Association have said that this year there's 1.555 million (22) _____ expected to cruise, which is a 14% increase on last year's. So it's definitely on the (23) _____.

Carol Thatcher: Quite a number. Why is cruising so popular?

Kelly Ranson: I think because it's got everything. You know, it's (24) _____ and the cruise lines are putting money into innovation. They really wanna go for (25) _____.

However, cruising is not that cheap. Or is it? Listen to what Kelly Ranson has to say...

Excerpt 4

- | |
|----------|
| elderly |
| unpack |
| children |
| 45 to 55 |
| cost |

Carol Thatcher: It's got a bit of an (26) _____ image, though.

Is the average age of passenger's age coming down?

Kelly Ranson: It's definitely coming down, the age. On a ship like this is the summer, (...) the average age of around (27) _____ and you're gonna probably have around a 1000 (28) _____ on a general cruise. That's definitely not just for elderly, no.

Carol Thatcher: A 1000 children on board, uh oh! Now then, what about the (29) _____ of cruising, because it has a bit of a pricey image, doesn't it?

Kelly Ranson: Hum well, you know, you get on board this ship and once you pay, pretty much everything is covered: your entertainment, your food and then you get to see all these destinations. You (30) _____ once and you travel, like you said, into 5 or 6 different ports.

BIO SECTION



Carol Thatcher was born on August 15th 1953. She is a British journalist, author and media personality. She is the only daughter of Margaret Thatcher, a former British Prime Minister.

From 2006 to 2009, Thatcher was a freelance contributor to the BBC One magazine programme *The One Show*, making regular filmed reports and joining the presenters and guests in the studio for discussions.