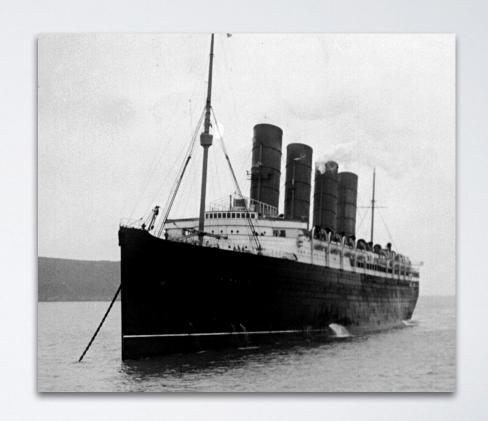


- The Lusitania was a
 British ocean liner that
 was launched by the
 Cunard Line in 1906
- At the time it was the largest ocean liner



Vessel Statistics:

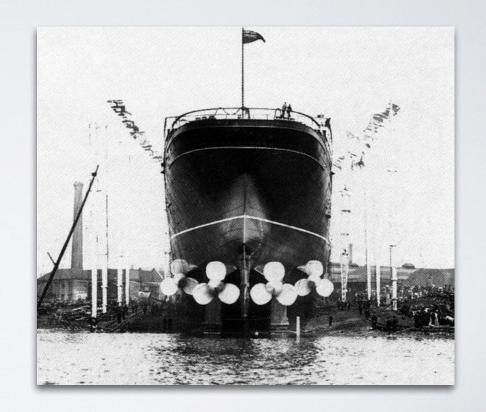
• Length: 787 feet

• Beam: 87 feet

• Draft: 34 feet

• Propellers: 4

• Top Speed: 26 knots



Vessel Statistics: (continued)

• Staterooms: 2198

• First Class: 552

• Second Class: 460

• Third Class: 1,186



- Before the war the Lusitania was used to ferry goods and people between the United States and England
- Very popular because of her speed and luxurious accommodations



 After World War I began in 1914, ocean voyages became extremely dangerous



- Each side hoped to blockade the other and prevent war materials from getting through
- German U-boats stalked
 British waters looking to sink
 enemy ships



- The Lusitania was thought as unsinkable because of her speed capabilities
- On May 1, 1915 she left with the intent of delivering food and passengers to England, in spite of threats by German authorities



 On May 7, 1915, Captain William Thomas Turner slowed the Lusitania down because of fog and traveled in a predictable line



 I4 miles off the coast of Ireland a German U-boat spotted and targeted the Lusitania



• At 1:40 pm a torpedo struck the starboard side of the Lusitania



- There was a large explosion, larger and muffled, that seemed to come from the bottom of the ship
- The ship lost power and steering and tilted to the right side at an angle of 25°



- Although there were enough life boats for all the passengers and crew there were problems:
 - The list of the ship didn't allow for the lifeboats to be launched
 - The starboard-side boats were swung out so far and passengers had to jump from the deck to the lifeboats
 - Some were damaged from the torpedo

- The Lusitania sank at 2:00 pm in 90 meters of water
 - Since the Lusitania was 239 meters long the bow hit the ocean floor while the stern was still in the air



- Sinking Statistics:
 - Total Passengers: 1959
 - Surviving Passengers: 761



- Sinking Statistics: (continued)
 - The sinking of the Lusitania contributed in the American involvement into WWI

