

The Twenty-One Balloons

Chapter 1 - “Professor Sherman’s Incredible Loyalty”

1. Describe the conditions in which the ship captain found Professor Sherman.
2. Name three people on the ship that tried to get Professor Sherman to tell his story. Why did they think he should tell it to them?
3. To whom was Professor Sherman planning to first tell his story?
4. What did the may give Professor Sherman? What did he expect from the professor?
5. How did the president help the professor to be able to tell his story sooner?
6. Why was the Professor Sherman so set on first telling his story to the special group?

Chapter 2 - “A Hero’s Welcome is Prepared”

1. Describe how the balloon craze affected the following:
 - a. dress fashions
 - b. fat ladies
 - c. grocery decorations
2. What company was given the contract to make the balloons to decorate the city? Why was it given to them?
3. Describe how the boy was playing with balloons that were put up for decorations.
4. What happened when the boy’s younger brother took the ballon?
5. Why did the fire company have to stay up all night?
6. What happened to the cupola of the Western American Explorers Club?
7. Describe the invention of the Tomes Aeronautical Studios.
8. For what was this invention to be used?
9. What fact did a boy uncover that renewed interest in Professor Sherman’s Story?
10. What happened to the Tomes Studios’ invention?

Chapter 3 - “A Description of the Globe”

1. What was Professor Sherman tired of that mad him desire to spend a lot of time by himself?

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2. About how long was Professor Sherman's journey supposed to last?
3. What did professor Sherman design to live in during his journey?
4. Describe how a ballast works.
5. What did professor Sherman use for a ballast?
6. What was special about the following things that Professor Sherman took along?
 - a. mattress
 - b. books
 - c. clothing
7. how did professor Sherman plan to do his laundry and wash his dishes?

Chapter 4 -"The Unwelcome Passenger"

1. What belief about seagulls led mariners to feed them?
2. What smell became unbearable on Professor Sherman's trip?
3. Why was professor Sherman happy that the people on the fishing boat did not speak English?
4. What did Professor Sherman spot on the seventh day?
5. Give two reasons why Professor Sherman threw his garbage overboard on the seventh day?
6. What happened when Professor Sherman threw his garbage overboard?
7. Why did Professor Sherman start throwing lots of things overboard? What items did he throw off first?
8. What was the problem with landing in the water?
9. When it became apparent that he was going to land in the water, what last resort action did Professor Sherman take?
10. Describe Professor Sherman's condition and location at the end of this chapter.