Titles at Sea

Read a model exhibit description and examine its italics.

12.5.W.9 "Students will write using correct italics mechanics."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline every italicized title or ship name in the passage. Circle the title in quotation marks so you can compare how it is formatted with the title of the publication containing it.

An Ocean in One Room

1. At the harbor library, an exhibit about the ocean begins with a battered copy of *The Sea Around Us*. Rachel Carson's book invites readers to imagine a vast world beneath the surface, not just the narrow strip they can see from shore. Next to the book sits a card bearing a question: What changes when an ocean becomes a place to investigate rather than a backdrop for vacations? Visitors can write answers on slips of paper. One teenager writes about the sound of waves at night; another describes wondering where a lost fishing line might travel.

2. Across the room, a screen plays a short clip from *WALL-E*, a 2008 animated film in which a robot collects trash on an abandoned Earth. The exhibit does not claim that its fictional future is a scientific prediction. Instead, the clip gives visitors a vivid image to test against evidence. A reading station displays "Production, use, and fate of all plastics ever made," a research article published in *Science Advances* in 2017. Readers can compare the film's abandoned streets with researchers' records of plastic production and disposal. A volunteer leaves pencils nearby so guests can jot down claims they want to investigate.

3. Near the exit, a display recalls the voyage of *Endurance*, the ship crushed by Antarctic ice in 1915. Its crew survived after an arduous journey, and explorers located the wreck in 2022. This part of the exhibit draws attention to exploration as well as waste: people have long crossed oceans while understanding only fragments of them. Before leaving, visitors choose one object from the room and write a caption for someone who has never seen the sea. The captions range from descriptions of cold metal to questions about what remains hidden beneath the water.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which title in paragraph 1 is italicized, and what kind of work does it name?

2. Which italicized title in paragraph 2 names a film rather than a printed publication?

3. Why is "Production, use, and fate of all plastics ever made" in quotation marks while *Science Advances* is italicized?

4. Which italicized name in paragraph 3 does not name a published work, and what does it name?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four-sentence pitch for an imaginary exhibit about rooftop gardens. Invent a book title, a film title, a magazine title, and an article title in that magazine; italicize the first three and put the article title in quotation marks.

ANSWER KEY

Titles at Sea

GRADE 12 · 12.5.W.9

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline every italicized title or ship name in the passage. Circle the title in quotation marks so you can compare how it is formatted with the title of the publication containing it. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which title in paragraph 1 is italicized, and what kind of work does it name?	***The Sea Around Us*** **is italicized because it is the title of a book.**
2	Which italicized title in paragraph 2 names a film rather than a printed publication?	***WALL-E*** **names the film.**
3	Why is "Production, use, and fate of all plastics ever made" in quotation marks while *Science Advances* is italicized?	**The research article's title takes quotation marks; the journal's title takes italics.**
4	Which italicized name in paragraph 3 does not name a published work, and what does it name?	***Endurance*** **names a ship.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

My rooftop garden exhibit opens with the invented book *Above the Pavement*, which follows a city's changing skyline. A screening of *Seeds on the Roof* shows neighbors transforming an empty terrace. Visitors can browse the invented magazine *City Sprouts* beside trays of seedlings. Its article "A Garden in One Square Yard" offers a starting point for small spaces.

Accept any four-sentence pitch about a rooftop garden exhibit that identifies an invented book, film, magazine, and article in that magazine. The book, film, and magazine titles must be italicized, and the article title must be in quotation marks.