Think About It!

Close-Reading Questions: After reading “America’s Deadliest Disaster,” go back and reread sections to answer the questions below.

1. In the first section of the article, what details does the author include to help you imagine the sounds Harry Maxson heard on September 8, 1900?

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2. Reread the section “A Changing World.” What was Galveston, Texas, like in 1900? How did its location affect it during storms?

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3. Reread the last two paragraphs of “No Escape.” If the Galveston Hurricane were to happen today, what might be different? Why?

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4. Reread “A Raging Sea.” What were the effects of the hurricane? What details does the author include to help you understand what the hurricane was like?
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5. Based on “A Raging Sea” and “Daring Rescue,” what was Harry’s family like? How would you describe Harry?
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6. Based on “Lucky to Survive,” how did the hurricane change Galveston?
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Critical-Thinking Questions: After answering the close-reading questions, answer the critical-thinking questions below, thinking about the meaning of the whole article.

7. Which section of the article does not mention Harry? Why is this section included?

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8. In this article, the author uses three similes—comparisons using “like” or “as.” Find the similes and explain what each one helps you picture.

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