

The Great Cutty Sark

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21 was a very fast sailing ship used for transporting cargo
30 during the 1800s. The reason that clipper ships sailed
40 so quickly was that they used three masts. The ships
49 were mainly built for transporting tea from China to
54 the rest of the world.

64 The building of the Cutty Sark was ordered by Captain
76 John Willis in 1869. He wanted it to be part of his
84 shipping company fleet. Work was completed the same
93 year and it was launched from Dumbarton, in Scotland,
104 on the 22nd November, 1869. At the time, it was the
112 fastest ship in the world and could carry
118 963 tons of tea – enough to
122 make over 200 million
125 cups of tea!



Quick Questions



1. What type of ship was the Cutty Sark?



2. Why do you think that John Willis wanted the Cutty Sark as part of his fleet?



3. Find and copy a phrase which states what clipper ships were used for.



4. Do you think the Cutty Sark would still be the fastest ship in the world today? Explain your answer.

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Answers



1. What type of ship was the Cutty Sark?
Accept: Clipper ship.



2. Why do you think that John Willis wanted the Cutty Sark as part of his fleet?
Accept answers which discuss its great speed and capacity which would be good for carrying a lot of stock.



3. Find and copy a phrase which states what clipper ships were used for.
Accept 'mainly built for transporting tea (to the rest of the world)'



4. Do you think the Cutty Sark would still be the fastest ship in the world today? Explain your answer.
Accept the answer 'no' with any viable explanation accompanying it, such as 'No because ships today have engines which mean that they can travel faster than ships which just have sails'.