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in a

bottle



IN the past, people communicated over long distances by writing letters, which had to be sent through the post. But sailors or, indeed, anyone by a shore, used to put their letters into a bottle, seal it and then throw it into the sea, where it will float around until someone far away finds it and reads what is inside.



Let's write a letter and put it into a bottle!

And maybe one day someone would find it!

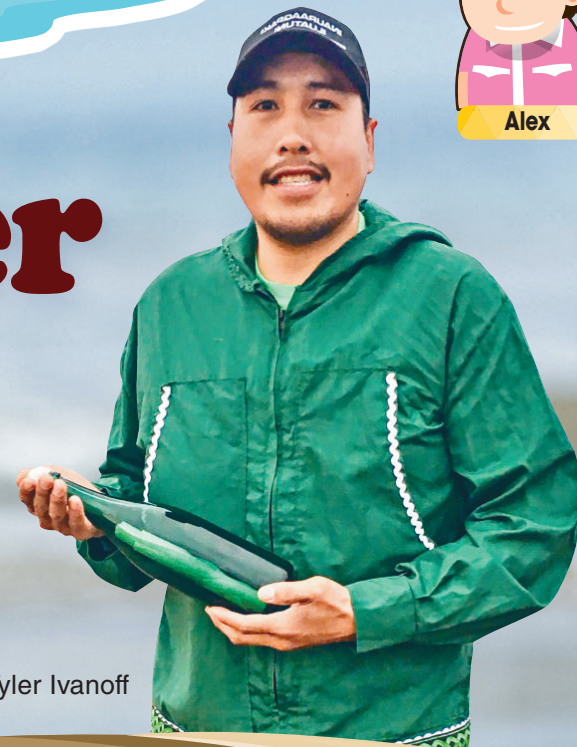




Alex

Return to sender

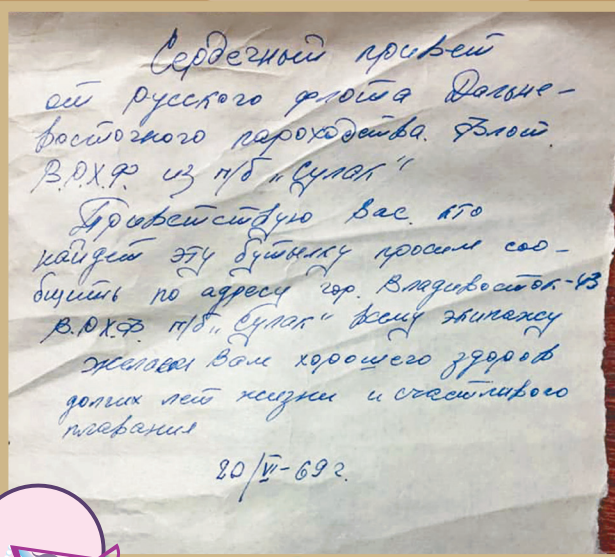
MOST people who send messages in a bottle do not expect to get any **response** back, but sometimes, they do get letters sent back in reply, even if it happens **decades** later.



► Tyler Ivanoff

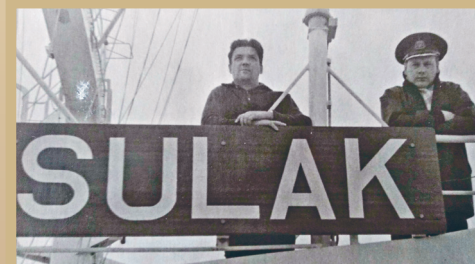
A find in Alaska

A FEW months ago, Tyler Ivanoff, an Alaskan (阿拉斯加的) schoolteacher, found a message in a bottle. Since he had been taking Russian (俄語) language classes, Ivanoff could identify the writing and saw that it was dated 20 June, 1969, but he could not figure out what it said. He posted a picture of it on social media and asked for help. News outlets in Russia reported on it and soon found the writer, Anatoly Botsanenko.



The note

BOTSANENKO was the captain of the ship *Sulak*, 50 years ago. His message read: "Heartfelt greetings! From the Russian Fleet Far East Shipping Company VRXF **depot** ship *Sulak*. I greet those who find the bottle and ask to respond to the address Vladivostok-43 VRXF *Sulak* to all **crew**."



The captain's reaction

CAPTAIN Botsanenko, now 86 years old, was found by the Russian media network Rossiya 1. He did not recall his note at first but then he saw the name of the fleet and said, "Oh, yes, look! East industry fishing fleet!" **Unfortunately**, the ship did not fare so well: it was sold for **scrap** back in the 1990s.



Can you believe that message was written over 40 years ago?



What job does Ivanoff have?



A. Teacher



B. Sailor



C. Reporter

Answers on P12

response (n)
反應

decade (n)
十年

depot (n)
倉庫

Vocabulary
Challenge ★★★★★

crew (n)
船員

unfortunately (adv)
不幸地

scrap (n)
廢鐵