

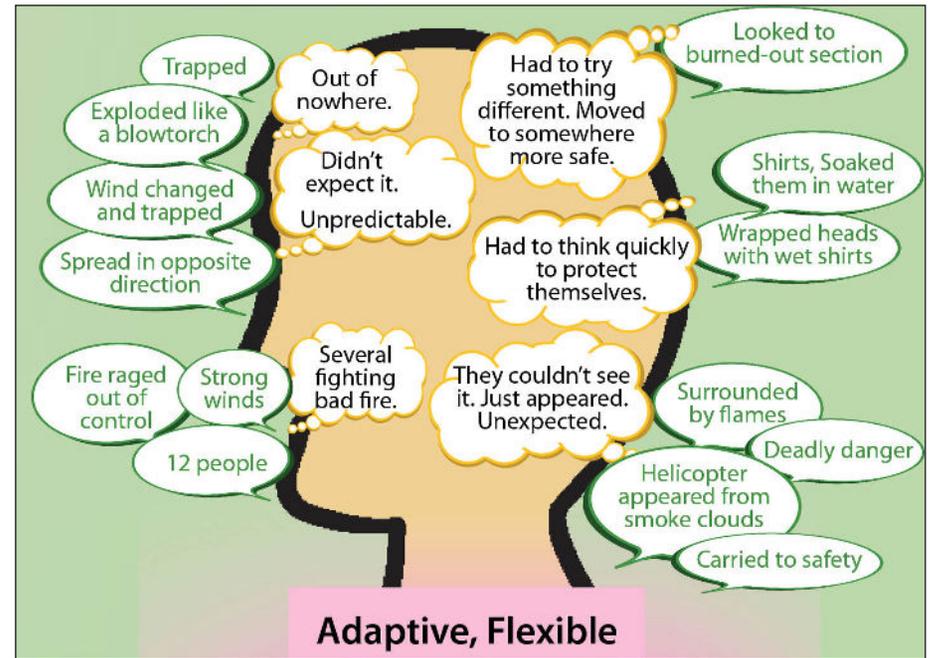
ORIGINAL TEXT | On August 4, 1961, twelve smokejumpers parachuted to a fire in Montana where strong winds were blowing, and the fire raged out of control.

Then the wind changed. The fire began to spread in the opposite direction. The smokejumpers became trapped. "The fire exploded like a blowtorch," one jumper said later.

The two crews looked for safety on a burned-out section. Some took their shirts and soaked them in water. They wrapped the wet shirts around their heads for protection.

Soon flames surrounded them. The firefighters were in deadly danger until a helicopter appeared from the smoke clouds above and carried them to safety.

PROMPT | Besides brave, describe another trait that smokejumpers demonstrate. Support your thinking with textual evidence.



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BASIC short constructed response—

INFERENCE

Smokejumpers demonstrate the trait of adaptability.

EVIDENCE

According to the text, "The two crews looked for safety on a burned-out section."

EVIDENCE

The text also states, "some took their shirts and soaked them in water. They wrapped the wet shirts around their heads for protection."

EXPLANATION

These details show that smokejumpers must be able to adapt as a result of the unexpected and the unpredictable nature of their job.