

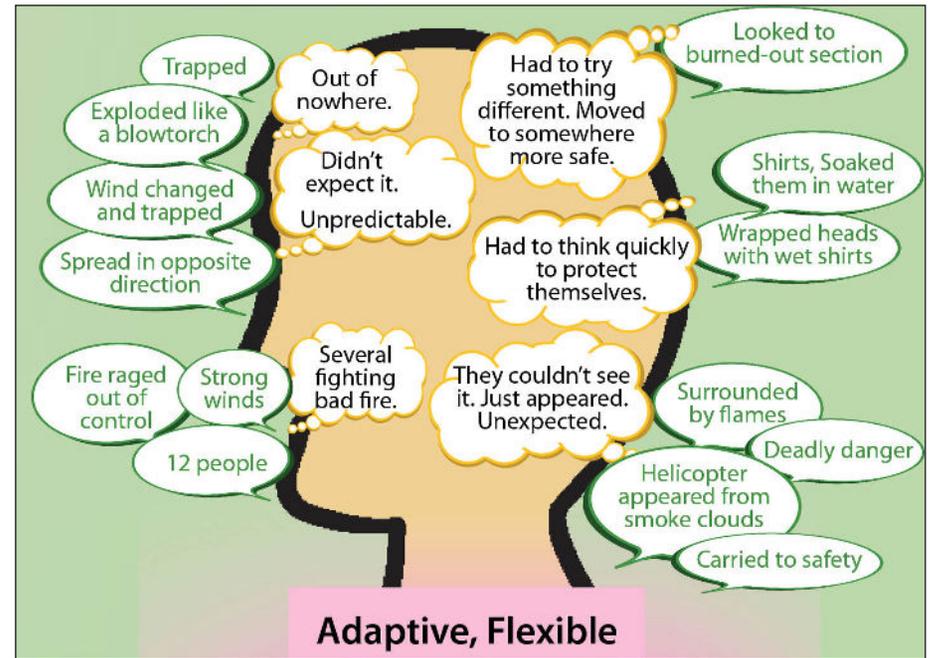
**ORIGINAL TEXT** | On August 4, 1961, twelve smokejumpers parachuted to a fire in Montana where strong winds were blowing, and the fire raged out of control.

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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## POLISHED short constructed response—

### INFERENCE

Smokejumpers demonstrate the trait of adaptability.

### EVIDENCE

According to the text, the trapped men looked for a "burned-out section."

### ELABORATION

In other words, they quickly assessed their surroundings and determined that an area already burned was less likely to reignite.

### EVIDENCE

The text also states that they "soaked" their shirts "with water" and "wrapped (them) around their heads" for added "protection."

### ELABORATION

This suggests that they were able to use their limited resources to shield themselves from the heat and smoke.

### EXPLANATION

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