



UNIT #2 - READING SECTION

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

1 Listen and read. TR: 2.6

Trains Make the World Go 'Round



The original bullet trains, the 0 Series, which stopped running in 2008, made enough trips to circle the earth 30,000 times.

Stand back! The *Shinkansen*, or “bullet train,” is coming into the station! These Japanese trains are some of the fastest trains in the world. The journey from Tokyo to Nagano used to take three hours. The bullet train travels at 300 kilometers per hour (186 miles per hour) and takes only 79 minutes! The trains are always on time (although once one was 42 seconds late!), they’re comfortable, and they’re very quiet. You feel like you aren’t moving at all. But don’t fall asleep. There is a lot to see. The bullet train travels across 300 bridges, and you can see Mount Fuji out the window.

In fact, trains are popular in many parts of the world—not just Japan. Every day, billions of people in China, India, and Europe travel by train. Trains are the fastest and safest way to travel on land. (Cars and buses are much more dangerous.) Although trains are more expensive than they used to be, they still make the world go ‘round!

2 Write. Complete the chart with the opinions about bullet trains.

There is a lot to see.	They’re comfortable.
They’re always on time.	They’re very fast.

Opinions	Supporting facts
1. They’re very fast.	The trains travel at 300 km/h.
2.	The train was late only once. It was 42 seconds late!
3.	When you are on the train, you feel like you aren’t moving.
4.	There are views from hundreds of bridges.