

MORE INVENTIONS!

1 Read the text and mark the sentences TRUE or FALSE

Trains

At the beginning of the 19th century, trains didn't exist. People travelled by horse and cart. They needed more than a day to travel 150 kilometres.

In 1814, an English engineer called George Stephenson invented a locomotive. It pulled 30 tons of coal up a hill. It travelled at six kilometres an hour. It was the best locomotive of the time.

1800 1814 1830 The 21st century

George Stephenson also designed the first train line for passengers. The line opened in September 1830. It transported people from Manchester to Liverpool. George and his son, Robert Stephenson, designed a famous locomotive for the line. It was called Stephenson's Rocket. You can see it in the Science Museum in London.



Stephenson's Rocket

Today, in the 21st century, trains are longer, faster and more comfortable than in the past. There are high-speed trains that travel at more than 400 kilometres an hour. 400 kilometres an hour! That's very fast!



A high-speed train

I think the train is a great invention. Trains save us lots of time. We can travel to other cities and countries by train. And trains are more ecological than cars. Can you imagine life without trains?

by Ed

- A - An Irish engineer called Stephenson invented a locomotive. TRUE FALSE
- B - He invented it in eighteen forty. TRUE FALSE
- C - It carried coal to the hills. TRUE FALSE
- D - Then, he invented the first train to transport people from one place to another. TRUE FALSE
- E - In the 21st century, people don't travel by train anymore because they are not fast enough. TRUE FALSE

2 Now, complete these sentences with information from the text.

- A - _____ was an engineer from _____.
- B - He invented a locomotive and designed the first train for passengers. The line opened in _____.
- C - Robert Stephenson was George's _____.
- D - George and Robert Stephenson designed a famous locomotive called _____.
- E - Nowadays, trains are _____ and _____ than in the past.
- F - They travel at _____ an hour. They are incredibly fast!