

1. What other necessary things had to be done to start operating the Channel Tunnel?
 2. Why didn't the British support the first project of the Channel Tunnel?
 3. How many tunnels does the project actually contain?
 4. What are the safety tips while travelling through the Channel Tunnel?
 5. What are the possible ways for a passenger to travel through the Channel tunnel?
 6. Why is the Channel Tunnel considered to be a great engineering achievement?
 7. What was the most difficult task in constructing the Channel Tunnel?
- A.** The Channel Tunnel (or Chunnel) is a long tunnel between England and France under the English Channel. The section under the sea is 38km long and the entire length is 50.5km. At its lowest point it is 75 metres deep. The Channel Tunnel is the longest undersea tunnel in the world. The tunnel was recognised as one of the 'Seven Wonders of the Modern World' by the American Society of Engineers.
- B.** For centuries, crossing the English Channel via boat had been considered a miserable task. The windy weather and choppy water made travellers seasick. So, in 1802, French engineer Albert Favier was the first person who proposed to dig a tunnel under the water of the channel. Favier's plan was adopted by French leader Napoleon Bonaparte. But the British rejected the plan. They feared that Napoleon wanted to build the tunnel in order to invade England.
- C.** At the end of the 20th century the idea was revived. The digging of the Channel Tunnel began simultaneously from the British and the French coasts. The greatest challenge was making sure that both the British side of the tunnel and the French side actually met up in the middle. Special lasers and surveying equipment were used. On December 1, 1990, the meeting of the two sides was officially celebrated. For the first time in history, Great Britain and France were connected.
- D.** Although the meeting of the two sides of the service tunnel was a cause for great celebration, it certainly wasn't the end of the Channel Tunnel building project. Crossover tunnels, land tunnels from the coast to the terminals, electrical systems, fireproof doors, the ventilation system and train tracks all had to be added. Also, large train terminals had to be built at *Folkestone* in Great Britain and *Coquelles* in France.
- E.** It took 13,000 engineers and technicians to construct the Channel Tunnel. In fact, there are two running tunnels, one each way. Additionally, there is a smaller service tunnel with a crossover in the middle, so in case there's an emergency, the trains can actually change to either side. It is wrong to call it a tunnel as there are actually three tunnels. The tunnels are about 50 meters below the seabed.
- F.** If you want to use the tunnel, you have got a choice. You can either go on a passenger train, the Eurostar, which departs from London, Paris and Brussels city centres. Or you can go on the drive-on service, called the Eurotunnel Shuttle, starting close to the tunnel entrance where you drive your car or truck onto special rail cars.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Answer							

The Moscow metro

The Moscow metro is very important as a means of transport in the Russian capital, in particular during rush hours. It has more metro visitors than the New York subway and London underground put together! The Moscow metro works efficiently and the trains run very frequently and very fast. The Moscow metro is one of the most beautiful subways in the world. 44 of the stations are listed as cultural heritage sites.

The first plans for a metro system in Moscow date back to the times of the Russian Empire. One such project was actively discussed in 1902, but at that time the local government declined it in favor of trams. Indeed trams in those days were very popular and brought lots of money into the city's budget.

Then the plans for the construction of a metro system in Moscow were postponed by World War I and the October Revolution. As a result, the construction of the metro was only started in 1931 after the Soviet Union was established. The first 13 stations opened on May 15th, 1935. They were wonders of engineering and design.

Now, the Moscow Metro has 13 lines and more than 200 stations. Each line has a name, a number and a colour that identifies it. The Moscow metro has a circular line that links all metro lines. There is a legend concerning the appearance of the circle line, which had not been planned in the original project. The legend says that at a meeting devoted to metro construction Joseph Stalin put his cup of coffee on the metro map. It left a brown circle around the city centre. Joseph Stalin showed the circle to the builders and ordered the construction of such a line. It was how the circle line appeared and it explains why it has a brown colour on the metro map.

While travelling on the radial lines of the Moscow Metro to the centre, the stations are announced by men's voices and while going from the centre, women announce them. On the circle line men's voices announce the stations when going in the clockwise direction, while women's voices are used when going counterclockwise. This is done to make navigation simpler for blind people in the metro.

The Moscow metro carries almost seven million people daily. The people who work there use every effort to ensure the comfort of the passengers. All trains have free wireless internet access, so that the passengers can read their emails or chat with their friends on their way to work.

Recently the 'Music in the Metro' project has started. 30 talented and well-trained musicians give different concerts to the metro passengers. All concerts are held from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. (apart from rush hours) absolutely free. There is no special stage —the musicians perform in different stations of the metro. Muscovites really like the concerts, and 'Music in the Metro' has become a regular event in the Moscow metro. Sometimes, walking through the metro, you can listen to a top-quality concert.

The Moscow metro carries more passengers than the New York subway.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

At the beginning of the 20th century, the Moscow government preferred trams to underground transport.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

The first metro stations were designed by Russian, English and American architects.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

The colours of the lines on the metro map are connected with the technical characteristics of the line.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

According to legend, the original plan of the Moscow metro included the circle line.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

There is a special rule when male and female voices are used to announce the metro stations.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

It was the initiative of Moscow students to make the Internet accessible in the metro.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

'Music in the Metro' is the name of a new popular musical.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- Not stated
- 3)

A Desperate Adventure

Captain Cowgill had always wanted to arrange a hot-air balloon expedition. One day, he placed an announcement in all the morning papers. He wrote that he needed three people who wanted to take a risky adventure. Ten people came to his office and Captain Cowgill selected three of them: two men and a young lady.

The first volunteer was Mr. Crutter, a well-dressed man of about sixty. He looked depressed and unhappy. The second one was a doctor, Dr. Hagan, a sad thin gentleman. The third adventurer, Miss Dermott, looked slim and miserable. They were ready to fly in the balloon in spite of the risks. Though Captain Cowgill hoped for success, there was a great chance that the participants wouldn't come back.

The next day, the balloon was ready for the journey. They had some food and the gas equipment. It was supposed that the travellers would fly during the day and then land for the night. Right before the take-off, a young man ran up to Captain Cowgill and begged to let him join the expedition. Captain Cowgill listened to his arguments and let the young man, Mr. Winden, fly too.

With the last farewell to Captain Cowgill, the balloon went sailing towards the clouds. At first the travellers said nothing. An hour later they found the journey exciting. Two hours later they revealed their reasons for coming on the dangerous flight.

Mr. Crutter said that he had been cheated by his partners and had lost a large part of his business. Though he had enough money left, he felt extremely depressed. Dr. Hagan told the travellers that he had lost his job in a hospital. He felt lonely and unwanted. Miss Dermott said that she suffered from a serious disease and had no money for treatment. Mr. Winden had just split up with his girlfriend and was ready to die.

In the evening, the travellers decided to take a rest. They landed in a deserted place and tied the balloon to a tree. After supper they continued talking about their unhappy fates. Suddenly, Mr. Crutter offered to share his money with his new friends. Dr. Hagan smiled and looked at Miss Dermott. "I think I can cure you, Miss Dermott," he said. "I have already had patients with the same diagnosis." Miss Diamont smiled. But it wasn't the last surprise. Mr. Winden proposed to Miss Diamont saying that he had fallen in love at first sight. She shyly promised to think it over.

The talk raised their spirits and, in the morning, everybody decided to go back home. Now when all their problems were happily solved, they didn't want to go anywhere. Suddenly Miss Dermott cried out pointing to a distant object in the sky. It was their balloon that had broken loose while they were having breakfast. Nobody felt upset!

The group decided to walk to the nearest railway station. Mr. Crutter bought tickets for his new friends and they sent Captain Cowgill a telegram. It said that the balloon had flown away accidentally, their expedition had failed and they would arrive in town the next day.

Captain Cowgill tried to find the participants for his project using an advert.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

Captain Cowgill **couldn't** take part in the expedition for health reasons.

- 1) True
- 2) False

3) Not stated

The balloon took off with four travellers on board.

1) True

2) False

3) Not stated

During the flight, the travellers kept their reasons for going on the expedition in secret.

1) True

2) False

3) Not stated

All the travellers had the similar troubles in life.

1) True

2) False

3) Not stated

After the first day of the flight, the travellers decided to stop the expedition.

1) True

2) False

3) Not stated

In the morning the travellers sold the balloon to buy their tickets home.

1) True

2) False

3) Not stated

Captain Cowgill got angry when he got the telegram.

1) True

2) False

Not stated

3)

29--34. WF

Axel is a 9-year-old Bulgarian orphan. He was adopted by a _____ western family.

WEALTH

His new father works as a _____ in Sweden and he is quite rich.

BANK

Axel _____ wrote e-mails to the director of the orphanage, Jane Smitova. He told her that he was saving his Christmas and birthday money to help his friends. Axel said that he wanted the money to be spent on presents for his former playmates.

REGULAR

Later Jane said "I understood that _____ meant a lot to a small boy but I would never have imagined

FRIEND

that Axel could be talking about such an _____ sum of money.

POSSIBLE

It's so touching and we are going to spend it in a very _____ way."
The boy saved £6,000.

CARE

20--28, GRAMMAR

The phone woke Kim up. She answered the call almost immediately, after the _____ beep.

THREE

The voice on the other end of the line sounded familiar but Kim _____ remember who it belonged to.

NOT CAN

“Hello,” the lady said. “Can I speak to Mrs. Len?”
“I’m sorry but she’s not at home. She’s out. She _____ in the park.”

WALK

It was very cold out-of-doors and everything _____ in snow but Kim’s mother walked in all weathers.

COVER

She believed that it _____ her keep fit and gave her extra energy.

HELP

She actually looked younger than other _____ of her age and that was probably because of her walking.

WOMAN

“Can I take a message?” Kim asked politely.
“No. I _____ her later. When is she going to be back?”

CALL

“She normally _____ home at five.”
“Fine,” came the answer and the phone went dead.

COME

Kim felt a bit hurt. “It’s not polite to break off a conversation like that,” she thought to herself. If I _____ older, I would explain to that lady how to talk to people politely.”

BE

