

ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

3RD BGU "A"

Name: _____

Topic: Into the Unknown

This reading is from page 72 of Unit 7 of your English book.

Instructions:

- Read each prediction carefully.
- Assign each prediction the title that best describes it.
- Drag the corresponding title next to the prediction.

Pest Eradication

Alphabet Simplification

Speedy Train Travel

Urban Traffic Solutions

Instant Telegraphed Photographs

Global Wireless Communication

Worldwide Sightseeing Cameras

In December 1900, at the start of the 20th century, an American civil engineer and journalist called John Elfreth Watkins wrote a piece entitled 'What May Happen in the Next Hundred Years', which was published in an American women's magazine, Ladies' Home Journal.

He began the article with the words: 'These prophecies will seem strange, almost impossible,' explaining that he had consulted the country's 'greatest institutions of science and learning' for their opinions on 29 topics.

Nearly 120 years later, his predictions became a viral internet hit because of the accuracy of some of them.

1. Photographs will be telegraphed from any distance. If there is a battle in China a hundred years hence, snapshots of its most striking events will be published in the newspapers an hour later. Photographs will reproduce all of nature's colors.

2. There will be no C, X or Q in our everyday alphabet. They will be abandoned because they are unnecessary.

3. Wireless telephone and telegraph circuits will span the world. A husband in the middle of the Atlantic will be able to converse with his wife sitting in her boudoir in Chicago. We will be able to telephone to China quite as readily as we now talk from New York to Brooklyn.

4. Man will see around the world. Persons and things of all kinds will be brought within focus of cameras connected electrically with screens at opposite ends of circuits, thousands of miles apart.

5. All fast traffic will be below or above ground when brought within city limits.

[REDACTED]

6. Trains will run two miles a minute normally. Express trains will travel at one hundred and fifty miles per hour (240 kilometers per hour).

[REDACTED]

7. Mosquitoes, houseflies, and cockroaches will have been exterminated.