

From Horses to Rockets

Horse-Drawn Carriages

Before engines existed, people used horse-drawn carriages to travel. These wooden vehicles, often with large wheels, were the main form of transportation for (1)..... However, they were slow, uncomfortable, and required constant care for the horses.

The Steam-Powered Era

In the early 19th century, inventors experimented with steam-powered vehicles. The first *steam locomotive* was (2)..... in 1804, and steamships soon followed. These vehicles made long-distance (3)..... and trade much faster. However, steam engines were large, heavy, and required a lot of fuel.

The Automobile Revolution

In 1886, Karl Benz created the first *gasoline-powered car*, changing personal transportation forever. Later, Henry Ford introduced assembly-line production, making cars affordable for (4)..... people. Today, cars come in many forms, including electric and self-driving models.

The Rise of Trains

Railroads became the fastest way to travel long (5)..... in the 19th and 20th centuries. The *Transcontinental Railroad* (1869) in the U.S. and the *Trans-Siberian Railway* (1904) in Russia helped connect vast territories. Later, high-speed rail was developed, with Japan's *Shinkansen* (1964) being the first bullet train.

Taking to the Skies

The Wright brothers made the first powered flight in 1903, and *aviation* quickly developed. By the 1920s, commercial airplanes made international travel possible. *Jet engines* (1940s) made flights much faster, leading to the modern air travel industry. Today, planes can (6)..... the Atlantic Ocean in just a few hours.

Public Transport in Cities

In big cities, people rely on buses, trams, subways, and bicycles. The first underground metro system opened in London in 1863, (7)..... by others in Budapest, Paris, and Tokyo. Modern public transport includes electric buses, monorails, and bike-sharing programs.

Ships and Ocean Travel

For thousands of years, people used *sailing ships* to explore the world. The invention of *steamships* in the 19th century made sea travel faster and safer. Later, massive *cruise ships* and nuclear-powered (8)..... expanded the possibilities of ocean travel.

The Space Age

In 1961, Yuri Gagarin became the first human in space. The Apollo program (1969) put humans on the Moon, and space (9)..... like NASA, ESA, and SpaceX are working on missions to Mars and beyond. The dream of space travel for ordinary people is becoming more real.

The Future of Vehicles

From self-driving cars to hyperloop trains and flying taxis, technology is always evolving. Vehicles have come a long way, and the future will bring even faster, cleaner, and smarter (10)..... to travel.

Word Bank

distances, built, time, submarines, travel, centuries, ways, cross, ordinary, followed, agencies