

Pony Express

Before 1860 there was no quick way of getting mail (1) _____ the east and the west of the United States. There was no railways at that (2) _____ and most mail was sent by coach. It usually (3) _____ at least 25 days for coaches to (4) _____ the coast. So in 1860 it (5) _____ decided to send mail by "Pony Express", which was much faster. Riders (6) _____ very fast horses were placed along the route. They were at (7) _____ distances from each other and the mail was handed from one rider to the next. Riders were all (8) _____ to travel between twenty and thirty kilometers (9) _____ day on very bad roads. At each stop two minutes were (10) _____ for exchanging the mail bags, but riders were often held up by awful weather (11) _____ closed the roads. With the invention of the telegraph in 1861, the demand for Pony Express disappeared.

