

Match each question with the correct answer.

Getting About

The history of roller skates

Six.

Put photos next to appropriate paragraph

a.4 , b.2 , c.1 , d.5

Paragraphs, photos

Internet and library.

Sheila.

3 Getting about.

Last month, we asked ITC members to write about different types of transport. Sheila, from Melbourne in Australia, has sent in the following report about roller skates. Read the report and discuss the focus questions in your group.

Focus Questions

Who is the author? 1

What's the title? 2

How many paragraphs are there? 3

Where did Sheila get her information from? 4

Match the photographs with a paragraph. 5

What do you think is good about Sheila's competition entry? 6

How could she make the report better? 7

The history of roller skates

I have been skating since last year and decided to find out more about roller skates. I found lots of information on the internet and in books. The modern roller skate is the result of hundreds of years of designing and inventing.

They have been ice skating in the Netherlands for hundreds of years. In the early 18th century, a Dutch man wanted to go ice skating in the summer when there was no ice. He fixed large wooden wheels onto thin pieces of wood and fixed them to his shoes. These first roller skates were called 'skeelers'.



As roller skating became more popular, inventors started to improve the design of roller skates. In 1823, the 'Rollito' was invented by Robert John Tyers. It was a boot with five wheels in a straight line. It was easier to put on and easier to use, but it was impossible to skate round corners!



Later, in 1863, an American called James Plimpton invented skates with four wheels. There were two wheels under the heel and two under the toes. They were the first skates that let you skate round corners and which let you skate backwards.

In 1979, the modern skate was born. Scott Olson and Brennan Olson went back to the old design where the wheels were in one line. They used plastic materials and added a rubber toe-brake to make the modern rollerblade.



It has taken many years to develop the modern rollerblade. Many inventors have helped improve the design so that teenagers can enjoy the wonderful free time activity of roller skating.

By Sheila

1 Helicopters.

Hamood has been preparing a draft of his work on helicopters. However, he is not sure about some verbs and he has left spaces in his work. Complete the text with the correct tense of the verb. Use the grammar reference at the back of the Skills Book to help you.



Write about a type of transport. Collect information and pictures, organise your writing into paragraphs and follow the Writing Route. Remember not to copy!

HELICOPTERS

I really 1. _____ (like) helicopters. I've been collecting helicopter models since I was 5 years old and I have also been reading about helicopters for several years.

In the 16th century, the great Italian inventor Leonardo Da Vinci 2. _____ (make) drawings of a helicopter. However, many early helicopter designs 3. _____ (be) too heavy and too big to leave the ground. At the end of the 19th century, the internal combustion engine 4. _____ (invent). In 1907, the first helicopter with two rotor blades 5. _____

(take off) into the air for a few seconds. Then, in 1924, a Frenchman 6. _____ (fly) a helicopter one kilometre. It took 7 minutes and 40 seconds.

We now 7. _____ (have) amazing machines like the Chinook and the Sikorsky.



Copy your correct answers in your
skills book.