

Units 7 & 8 – Grammar Review

Transportation



In the past, people in the UAE had few ways to transport goods like rugs, food or tents from place to place. They could only carry a few items on a donkey's back because it was so small, or if they needed a large amount of goods, they could use a camel. In both cases, the load was limited to the number of animals they could feed and water along the way. If water or food disappeared, then the goods were lost by the animals' owners!

Right now, we have many different machines to transport goods. Because of the great road system in the UAE, we can use trucks and other vehicles to transport goods. Since the early 1900's, some goods have been moved from city to

city by airplane. The Dubai Metro opened on the 9th September 2009, by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Ruler of Dubai. More than 20 million people have ridden on the Metro since it opened. In the future, the UAE will use high-speed trains to send more goods around the Emirates.



The First Books

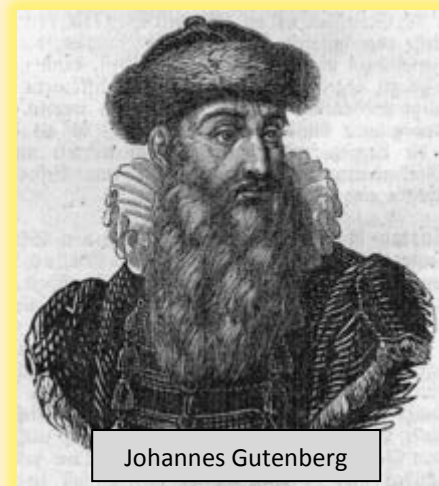


Do you know who invented the first book? No? Well, nobody knows. In the past, handmade books (cost) a lot of money to buy because book makers (not make) a lot of them quickly or cheaply.

500 years ago, there (be) many types of reading materials made from different kinds of materials. The first writers (write) on rolls of skins from animals or on plant materials like papyrus or cotton. It was difficult (make) many copies because the materials were very expensive. If you made a mistake you lost a lot of money because you had to destroy the whole page!

The first printing press with moveable type (invent) by Johannes Gutenberg in 1450. Since that time, book makers (print) millions of books. However since 2000, e-books (become) increasingly popular. Amazon (an online book seller) now sells e-books than paper books.

Right now, people (read) e-books on computers, iPads, Kindles and many other electronic devices. Amazon expects that in the future, e-book sales (increase) rapidly.



Johannes Gutenberg

Saving Fingers – A New Fan Cover

Can you believe it? In the past, one of the dangerous things in the home was a fan. To solve this problem, in 1955 Robert Selah (invent) a new kind of fan-cover. At that time, the blades on all electric fans (made) of metal by companies like General Electric. A major problem was that they often (cut) the fingers of children who touched fan. He (know) there must be a way to protect these children from injury. He hated (see) the pictures of injured kids in the newspaper.

One day, Robert (have) an idea. He said, “ If I (cover) the entire fan, it (stop) children from reaching the dangerous moving blades.” He (try) many different materials. Finally, he (discover) a metal mesh that let most of the cool air out, but it (keep) fingers from the blades. He (sell) the design for \$150 to General Electric. However, his design (not be) produced. Since the 1980s, companies (make) fan blades from plastic. Plastic blades (not hurt) people if they touch them. In the future, fans that move air without blades (become) more common.

Using the information above, answer the questions below:

Who invented a metal cover for fans?

What material replaced metal in blades?

When did Mr. Selah invent a cover for fans?



The First Ford Car



The automobile was not invented _____ Henry Ford. He was an innovator rather than an inventor. He _____ (be) the man who imagined thousands of cars on a production line. He also decided _____ (pay) his workers a large salary, so they could _____ (buy) one of the cars they made.

Inexpensive cars have been made by Ford _____ 1905. Ford knew that if he sold _____ least expensive car, then his workers would want _____ (buy) one. If they were _____ expensive, no one could afford one. Therefore, he made the car cheap _____ , so that they would become the _____ popular car in the world. For more 100 years, people _____ (buy) Ford cars because they are cheap and reliable.

Which sentence is correct?

- a. The most expensive cars were made by Ford Motor Company.
- b. Ford bought inexpensive cars for his workers.
- c. Many of Ford’s workers bought Ford’s cars.

The correct sentence is:

Images

Donkey: <http://pixabay.com/en/donkeys-mountain-road-transalpina-92773/>

Dubai Metro: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Metro_Dubai_2.JPG

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