

Title: Trains!

Word Study

Fill in the blanks using the words.

load	passengers	rail	engine	warned
------	------------	------	--------	--------

1. When the engine broke, the car stopped moving.
2. The bus can hold thirty passengers.
3. My mom warned me not to touch the hot pot on the stove.
4. The truck's load was stolen by some criminals.
5. The new rail line goes from Paris to Moscow.

Reading Comprehension

A. Circle T for true or F for false.

1. The first train's engine had to boil water to move. T / F
2. Some trains can be as long as half a mile. T / F
3. Two or three blasts from a train whistle mean it is stopping. T / F
4. Some trains only travel within a city. T / F
5. Some trains are used to carry truck beds. T / F

B. Circle the correct word(s).

1. Roads used to be made of (dirt / metal).
2. Whistles on diesel trains use (air / diesel) to make noise.
3. Trains are better for the (environment / passengers) than trucks.
4. There is a train in China that is (faster / almost as fast) as a plane.
5. The newest trains in the world don't have (wheels / whistles).

C. Choose the best answer.

1. How did people feel about trains at first?
 - a. They liked them.
 - b. They were excited about them.
 - c. They were afraid of them.
 - d. They wanted more of them.

2. What were whistles first used for on trains?
 - a. To tell people what time a train was leaving
 - b. To warn people that a train was coming
 - c. To let trains conductors communicate with each other
 - d. To allow the steam engines to release some steam

3. Which country is NOT listed as a place to find electric trains?
 - a. France
 - b. South Korea
 - c. The United States
 - d. Japan

4. What is something that freight trains do NOT carry?
 - a. Logs
 - b. Coal
 - c. Boxes
 - d. People

5. What is special about the high-speed trains in Japan?
 - a. They were made in South Korea.
 - b. They don't have to slow down for curves.
 - c. They can come to a stop very quickly.
 - d. They travel faster than airplanes.

Summary

Fill in the blanks with the words.

freight	steam	whistles	electric	diesel
---------	-------	----------	----------	--------

Before there were trains, there were dirt roads. People used these roads to transport goods. However, it was still hard to move heavy things. Sometimes they used wooden rails to make it easier. Later someone invented the steam engine. People didn't need horses anymore. They could pull very heavy things. Then diesel engines were invented. These trains were even stronger and faster. Whistles were added to trains, too. They warned people when trains were coming. This way they knew to get out of the way. Trains today run on electric power. In places like South Korea, they can go very fast. Because trains don't use fuel or much fuel, they are better for the air. A large freight train can carry much more than a truck and uses much less gas. Meanwhile, passenger trains can move lots of people around. They do this quickly and comfortably. Trains keep getting better.