

## Unit 8 People and Events

### Culture Understanding

#### 一、阅读理解

##### Trains Through Time

Trains have changed how people travel and have brought so much convenience to our lives.

George Stephenson, a British engineer, is known as “the father of railways.” He built the world’s first passenger train. The train used steam to move and could go 24 kilometers an hour. It first ran on September 27, 1825. People consider this day the beginning of railway transportation.

In 1964, Japan built the first high-speed railway in the world. The trains used electricity and could travel at 210 kilometers an hour. This was over eight times faster than Stephenson’s train!

Today, China leads the world in high-speed railways. It has the longest network and the fastest trains. High-speed railways connect the most parts of the country, from the high mountains to the busy cities in the east, and from the snowy lands in the west to the warm seaside in the south.

1. Who is called "the father of railways"?

A. A Japanese engineer

B. George Stephenson

C. A Chinese inventor

D. An American scientist

2. When did the world's first passenger train run?

A. On September 27, 1825

B. In 1964

C. In 2025

D. In 1800

3. Which country built the first high-speed railway in the world?

A. China

B. Britain

C. Japan

D. The US

4. What's the speed of Japan's first high-speed train?

A. 24 km/h

B. 80 km/h

C. 210 km/h

D. 100 km/h

5. Which of the following is TRUE about China's high-speed railways?

A. They only connect big cities in the east.

B. They have the shortest network in the world.

C. They can't reach snowy lands.

D. They have the longest network and the fastest trains.

## 二、句子英译汉

6. Trains have changed how people travel and have brought so much convenience to our lives.

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7. George Stephenson, a British engineer, is known as “the father of railways.”

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8. It first ran on September 27, 1825.

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9. This was over eight times faster than Stephenson’s train!

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10. High-speed railways connect the most parts of the country, from the high mountains to the busy cities in the east.

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