



When I came to live in England as a teenager, I still hadn't travelled by train. London Waterloo was the first real station I ever saw and its great glass dome filled me with wonder.

**C. Betty Cooper – Novelist**

I am indebted to one train in particular: the Blue Train, which took my husband and me on our honeymoon across France to catch a boat to Egypt. It was on the train that my husband gave me a pink dress, which I thought was absolutely wonderful. Someone happened to mention that pink was good for the brain, and I've never stopped wearing the colour since. What I remember about the journey itself, however, is how lovely it was to travel through France and then by boat up the Nile to Luxor. It was, without a doubt, the perfect way to wind down after all the wedding preparations.

**D. Martin Brown – Journalist**

We were working on a series of articles based on a round-the-world trip and had to cross a desert in an African country. There wasn't a road, so the only way we could continue our journey was to take what was affectionately known as the Desert Express. The timetable was unreliable – we were just given a day. We also heard that, in any case, the driver would often wait for days to depart if he knew there were passengers still on their way. When it appeared, there was a sudden charge of what seemed like hundreds of people climbing into and onto the carriages – passengers were even allowed to travel on the roof free. During the night, the train crossed some of the most beautiful landscapes I have ever seen. It was like a dream, like travelling across the moon.

**E. Jennifer Dickens – Actress**

I imagine most people's favourite impressions of trains and railways are formed when they are young children, but that's not my case. I was brought up in Singapore and Cyprus, where I saw very few trains, let alone travelled on them. It wasn't until I was a teenager that trains began to dominate my life. I made a film which featured a railway in Yorkshire. Most of the filming took place on an old, disused stretch of the line which had been lovingly maintained by volunteers. That's where my passion for steam trains began. When we weren't filming, we took every opportunity to have a ride on the train, and, when I went back last year, it was as if time had stood still. Everything was the same, even the gas lights on the station platform!

1. was unable to count on the train service
2. enjoyed the company of fellow passengers
3. found the views from the train dramatic
4. welcomed a chance to relax on the trip
5. was never disappointed by the journey
6. has a reason for feeling grateful to one special train
7. travelled on a railway which is no longer in regular service
8. regretted not going on a particular train trip
9. used to travel on the railway whenever possible
10. learnt an interesting piece of information on a train journey
11. took a train which travelled from one country to another
12. says that the railway had been looked after by unpaid helpers
13. was once considered not old enough to travel by train


### Task 3. Grammar (20 points)

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense.

#### The start of Google's Empire

The Google history looks (1)\_\_\_\_\_ a fiction. It started in 1995 when two PhD students of Stanford University, California, found that they (2)\_\_\_\_\_ a common vision for the development of a system which (3)\_\_\_\_\_ make it accessible to (4)\_\_\_\_\_ in the world to gain information in organized and easy (5) \_\_\_\_\_ way.

(6)\_\_\_\_\_ that the pages with the most links to them from (7)\_\_\_\_\_ highly relevant web pages associated (10) \_\_\_\_\_ the search, young scientists tasted their thesis, and laid the foundation for their search engine.

Originally, the search engine (11)\_\_\_\_\_ the Stanford University website with the domain *google.stanford.edu*.

The domain *google.com* (12)\_\_\_\_\_ on September 15, 1997, and the company was incorporated as Google Inc. in September 1998 at a friend's garage in Menlo Park, California. In March 1999, the company moved (13) \_\_\_\_\_ offices in Paulo Alto, home (14)\_\_\_\_\_ several other noted Silicon Valley technology startups.

The company's unofficial slogan became 'Don't be evil'. However, Google is (15) controversy related to its business practices: there are concerns (16)\_\_\_\_\_ the privacy of personal information, copyright and censorship.

By the end of 2003 the company (17)\_\_\_\_\_ 3 billion documents (18)\_\_\_\_\_ the Internet. The figure (19)\_\_\_\_\_ already over 25 billion at present. With innovations (20) to the front such as Froogle, map search, Gmail, photo editing, sitemap and others, Google is becoming the most important player on the Internet.

1	a) as	b) like	c) similar	d) so
2	a) have	b) has had	c) had	d) having
3	a) can	b) could	c) should	d) need
4	a) someone	b) anyone	c) everyone	d) no one
5	a) to use	b) use	c) using	d) have used
6	a) convincing	b) convinced	c) to convince	d) were convinced
7	a) other	b) others	c) the other	d) another
8	a) should	b) need	c) ought	d) must
9	a) most	b) the most	c) much	d) more
10	a) to	b) from	c) with	d) by
11	a) use	b) to use	c) used	d) used to
12	a) registered	b) was registered	c) has been registered	d) had been registered
13	a) at	b) on	c) into	d) by
14	a) at	b) to	c) of	d) for
15	a) with	b) without	c) not with	d) not without

16	a) regard	b) regarded	c) regarding	d) was regarded
17	a) indexed	b) was indexed	c) has indexed	d) had indexed
18	a) in	b) on	c) at	d) by
19	a) has grown	b) had grown	c) was grown	d) grew
20	a) has come	b) had come	c) coming	d) were coming

**Task 4. Synonyms (11 points)**

Arrange the words in pairs of synonyms.

- |                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. Realize     | a. fine       |
| 2. wealth      | b. riches     |
| 3. announce    | c. offer      |
| 4. immediately | d. pick up    |
| 5. talk        | e. understand |
| 6. suggest     | f. at once    |
| 7. lift        | g. point      |
| 8. spot        | h. declare    |
| 9. excellent   | i. chat       |
| 10. memorial   | j. monument   |
| 11. question   | k. place      |

**Task 5. Culture Corner (5 points)**

Choose the right answer

- Which character does not belong to English literature?  
**a) Mary Poppins      b) Winnie-the-Pooh      c) David Copperfield      d) Tom Sawyer**
- Which of these is not a traditional English sport?  
**a) basketball      b) cricket      c) golf      d) tennis**
- Which of these countries has never been a British Colony?  
**a) Australia      b) India      c) Canada      d) Japan**
- When is Guy Fawkes' Day celebrated?  
**a) November,5      b) December,25      c) May,9      d) February,14**
- Who was the 16<sup>th</sup> President of the USA?  
**a) George Washington      b) Abraham Lincoln      c) John Kennedy      d) Barack Obama**