

Задание 1. Переведите приведенный ниже отрывок из статьи в британском журнале, используя словарь.

The history of railways

Modern railways differ greatly from the early ones. The first railways used horses for moving trains and were made of wood. In 1767 an ironmaster Abraham Darby started making rails of cast iron. The first attempts to use the steam engine to draw passenger and freight trains were made in 1808 by an English inventor Richard Trevithick.

In 1825 George Stephenson, an English engineer, constructed the world's first steam locomotive. He also built the first public railway in England between Stockton and Darlington. He called his new steam engine "Locomotion". Another railway was built in 1825 to link Manchester and Liverpool (its length was 48 km).

The early locomotives were small and slow. They were not as safe and powerful as they are today. Some accidents were caused because of broken rails or wheels. However, the early trains did not have brakes. Most accidents happened when two trains crashed into each other, because there were no proper signals.

The first railway carriages were small and uncomfortable. They looked like stage coaches. In England the carriages for the first class passengers had three compartments with soft seats and doors at either side. There was a high seat at the back for the guard and a rack on the roof for luggage. The second class carriages also had roofs, but low sides and hard seats. The third class passengers had to ride in uncovered wagons without seats at all. These early trains had neither heating nor lighting.

The prototype of the modern sleeping car appeared in the middle of the 19th century. Its inventor was George M. Pullman, an American publisher.

The first steam locomotives in Russia were built by the Cherepanovs, father and son. So thanks to them Russia was among the first countries to use steam traction.

The first Russian passenger 28-km railway was built between St. Petersburg and Tsarskoye Selo. The railway was used by the Tsar's family for travelling to the countryside. The construction of the St. Petersburg - Moscow railway was finished in 1851. It operated successfully, though many people doubted the possibility of using steam engines in the Russian winter. In 1891 the building of the world's longest Trans-Siberian Railway began; it was put into operation in 1905.

Задание 2. Найдите в тексте и выпишите ответы на вопросы на английском языке.

1. What and when did George Stephenson construct?
2. What was the reason for the accidents with the early locomotives?
3. What did the carriages for passengers look like?
4. Who built the first locomotives in Russia?
5. What was the route of the first Russian passenger railway?