

WELLAND GOULDSMITH SCHOOL

CLASS: V SOCIAL STUDIES(HISTORY)

TOPIC: EVOLUTION OF TRANSPORT

Recapitulation

Early humans travelled from one place to another on foot. Travelling long distances with heavy load was difficult and time-consuming. The first boat was made when they realized that hollow trunks of trees can float in water. Later they learnt to tie a number of straight logs together to make a raft.

The invention of the wheel was one of the most important inventions of man. The wheel was invented about 5500 years ago, it was first used to make pots, later it was used in transport when the axle was invented.

With the invention of the wheel goods could be exchanged between far off places. As there were fewer roads at that time, travellers preferred to use sea routes for trade. Some famous explorers were Bartholomew Diaz, Christopher Columbus, Vasco Da Gama and Ferdinand Magellan.

After the invention of the wheel, the steam engine was the second greatest event in the history of transportation. James Watt improved upon the steam engine and made it more efficient. The first steam locomotive was built in the nineteenth century. Later, George Stephenson built one of the most successful early steam locomotives that were used to power the first trains. As rail travel was cheap, people could afford to travel by trains.

The first steam-powered boat was built by Robert Fulton in the nineteenth century. Steamboats revolutionized travel throughout Europe and enabled goods to be transported much faster.

The nineteenth century witnessed the discovery of crude oil or petroleum. The use of petrol and diesel-powered engines led to a wide range of vehicles such as cars, buses, trucks and so on to be manufactured. This made travelling easier and much faster than before.

In 1903, the Wright brothers conducted the first successful flight. The improvement in aeroplanes made travel by flight also possible.

With time, locomotives powered by electricity came to be used. The first electric passenger train ran in the late nineteenth century. Electric locomotives proved to be more efficient and economical than steam engines.

Over the years, humans have built an extensive network of roads. Some of the fastest trains have been designed by Japan, France and China. The construction of the Suez Canal and the Panama Canal has reduced the travel time between Europe and Asia. A large network of air routes connects the whole world.

Solve these:

To be written in your exercise book

1. Write the meanings of:

- a. explorer b. voyage c. New World d. colony e. locomotive
- f. expressway

2. Write short notes on:

- a. The importance of the invention of the wheel.
- b. Bartholomew Diaz
- c. Christopher Columbus
- d. Vasco Da Gama
- e. Ferdinand Magellan

Also solve exercises A and B in the text book and exercise C in your exercise book. (page 34)