Trains are the fastest and most efficient kind of land transport. High-speed passenger trains can carry up to 800 passengers at speeds of nearly 300 kilometres per hour. Freight trains are slower but can carry thousands of tonnes of goods such as oil, chemicals and cars.

The famous steam locomotive „The Rocket“ was designed by George Stephenson and built by his son Robert. It was the first public railway, the „Liverpool and Manchester Railway“.

This was in 1830. Over the next 20 years, many other countries began building their own railway networks.

By 1917, there were about a million miles of railway track worldwide. Then people began to use cars instead of trains, and railways became less important.

In 1938 the British locomotive Mallard set a world speed record for a steam locomotive of 203 km/h.

In 1990 the French high-speed train TGV reached a speed of 515 km/h.

Translate:

1. Dies ist ein sehr schneller Zug. .................................................................

2. Der Zug kann bis 800 Personen aufnehmen (tragen). ..........................................

3. Frachtzüge sind langsam. ...............................................................................

4. Die Rocket wurde von Robert Stephenson gebaut. .............................................

5. Sie bauten ihr eignes Eisenbahnnetz. ..........................................................

6. Die Leute brauchten Autos. ...........................................................................

7. Eisenbahnen wurden weniger wichtig. ...........................................................

8. Der TGV erreichte eine Geschwindigkeit von über 500 km/h. ..........................