

M4 Info sheet “Communication & Transportation”

History of Globalization: Communication & Transportation

Cross-border networking at the economic, political, ecological and socio-cultural level is not a phenomenon of our time, but goes far back in human history. For example, hundreds of years ago goods were transported along the Silk Road from Asia to Europe. However, the interconnections in the 20th century have gained much in speed and intensity.

The main cause of globalization is technological progress, especially in communications and transport technologies. Around 1800, the transmission of a message from Europe to America took several weeks. It took just as long to transport people or goods overseas. Thanks to technical innovations, today news, information and images can be sent within seconds and people and goods can be transported to the other end of the world in no time at all.

Transcontinental railway connections, road traffic, shipping and aviation enable fast transport of people and goods over long distances. Due to (further) technical developments in all four areas, but especially with the invention of aircraft, the travel speeds have increased enormously. Within 200 years, the highest possible travel speed of about 18 kilometers per hour has risen to over 1000 km/h.

“Communication & Transportation”

around 1833

Allows the transmission of coded signals through electrical lines over more or less long distances.

Correct answer: Morse telegraph

around 1876

Device for transmitting sound waves via electrical signals and lines. Only then did it become possible for people to speak directly to each other over long distances.

Correct answer: telephone

around 1920

The development was based on the discovery of electromagnetic waves. This allowed a single speaker to reach a multitude of people without any time delay.

Correct answer: radio

around 1930

In Germany it also bears the nickname "Slipper Cinema". In the 1950s, it became a mass medium.

Correct answer: TV

around 1970

Using this device, texts and images can be transmitted over the telephone network within a few minutes. Has been increasingly displaced by emails with the emergence of the Internet.

Correct answer: fax machine

around 1980

Forerunner of this medium, so-called calculating machines go back to antiquity. The first electronic devices were created in the 1940s. They were widely used in the 1980s.

Correct answer: computer

around 1987

Originally developed as a US military project, it became accessible to the general public at the beginning of the 1990s and revolutionized the exchange of information. Within seconds, this technology can exchange a large amount of data (text, images, video, sound).

Correct answer: Internet

around 1990

Already 1926 there were first attempts of wireless telephony. Portable devices were created but only in the 1980s. While the first devices weighed just about one kilo, they fit into every trouser pocket today.

Correct answer: cellphone



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

EduSkills+
Reflections

This project has been funded with support from the European Union. The author exclusively is responsible for the publication content. The publication does not reflect the views of the European Commission and the European Commission is not responsible for usage of the data contained therein.

© 2018-2019 eduskills.plus

URL: https://eduskills.plus/modules/interconnected_world/globalisation