



UNIT 8

People and Events

Learning Objectives

After completing this unit, you will be able to

- learn from great people and events in history;
- get details about people and events;
- talk about your favorite things;
- exchange ideas about important people and events;
- write a key information summary.

★ If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants.

如果我比别人看得更远，那是因为我站在巨人的肩膀上。

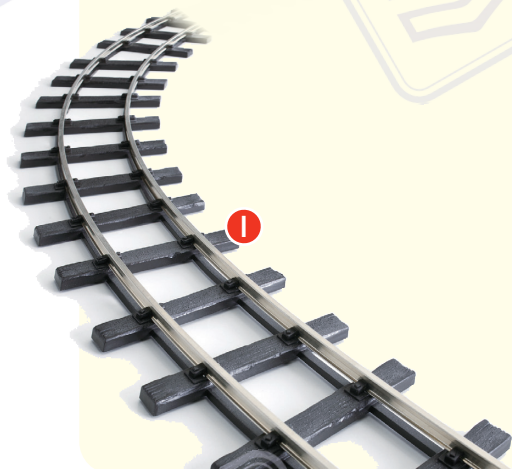
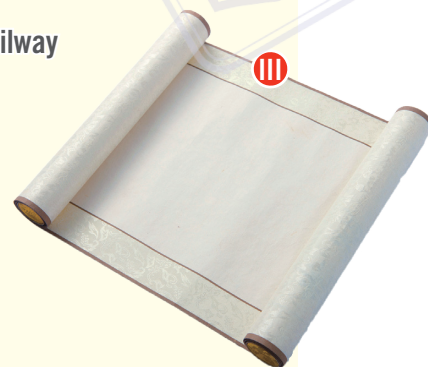
Warming Up

1 Look and match.

将以下人物或城市与对应事件及图片相匹配。

- 1) Cai Lun
- 2) Henry Ford
- 3) Beijing
- 4) Zhan Tianyou

- A. holding the Winter Olympic Games
- B. producing cars in large numbers
- C. designing and building the Jingzhang Railway
- D. improving the method of paper-making



2 Read and guess.

读以下谜语，比一比谁先猜到谜底。



I am very very old, but I am thin.

I can wear your colorful paintings, and

I can help you record and share knowledge.

What am I?

Listening and Speaking

3 Listen and tick.

听录音，勾选出对话的主题。



- ☐ A. buying and using paper
- ☐ B. the history of paper in China
- ☐ C. the invention of paper

TIPS

造纸术 (paper-making)、指南针 (compass)、火药 (gunpowder)、印刷术 (printing) 等重要发明均来自中国，推动了人类的进步。

4 Listen and choose.

再听录音，选择正确答案。

- 1) Why is Jack interested in the history of paper in China?
- A. It is because he saw a paper-making museum nearby.
- B. It is because he is studying Chinese history.
- C. It is because he wants to buy some paper.
- 2) How long is the history of using paper in China?
- A. About 4 000 years. B. About 2 000 years. C. About 1 000 years.

5 Listen and complete.

再听录音，补全以下信息。

Time of invention

The paper was invented in the 1) _____ Dynasty.

Quality

The quality of the paper was 2) _____ than before.

Cai Lun's paper

Price

The price of the paper was 3) _____ than before.

Importance

More people could buy paper and use it to 4) _____.

6 Listen, read and underline.

听录音，跟读并标出讨论偏好及其原因的语句。



- Lin Yang:** What is your favorite invention?
- Jane Adams:** The smartphone, of course.
- Lin Yang:** Why do you like it most?
- Jane Adams:** I can do a lot of things with it, such as chatting with friends and taking selfies. Is it also your favorite invention?
- Lin Yang:** I'm afraid not. I like the ebook reader best.
- Jane Adams:** Really? Why?
- Lin Yang:** Well, I can read with it wherever I am. I can't live without it.
- Jane Adams:** I see. There are so many inventions, and they have changed our lives so much.
- Lin Yang:** That's true. I hope someday I can invent something useful.
- Jane Adams:** Yeah. That would be cool.

7 Imitate and practice.

参照活动 6，根据以下信息与同伴练习对话。

Useful words and expressions

- compass; plane; computer ...
- find directions; travel a long distance in a short time; speed up the development of the world ...

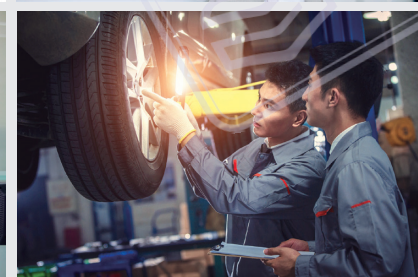
- A:** What is your favorite invention?
- B:** ...
- A:** Why do you like it?
- B:** ... Is it also your ... ?
- A:** I'm afraid not. I like ... best.
- B:** Why?
- A:** Well, I can ...
- B:** I see.

8 Role play.

假设你从事以下某一职业，参照示例谈论对该职业较为重要的人物或事件。

eg

- A: What do you do?
 B: I'm a nurse.
 A: Can you think of an important person or event related to your work?
 B: Tu Youyou.
 A: Why?
 B: Because she invented a medicine, and it has helped so many patients around the world.



Job	Important Person or Event	Reason
mechanic	Henry Ford	the first person to produce cars in large numbers
teacher	the invention of the Internet	giving online classes to students in remote areas
hotel receptionist	holding the Winter Olympic Games	people from all over the world coming to the city

Reading and Writing

9 Read and guess.

读以下谜语并给出答案。



I am a dragon, but I can't fly.
 I am a snake, but I can't bite.
 I am a worm who can go across the country day and night.
 What am I?

10 Read and think.

阅读课文，勾选出主人公选择回国最有可能的原因。

**Jingzhang Railway**

The Jingzhang Railway stretches from Beijing to Zhangjiakou. It is well known in China because it was the first of its kind designed and built by Chinese people.

- ☐ more job opportunities
- ☐ better living conditions
- ☐ love for his country
- ☐ orders from his parents

The chief engineer for this railway was Zhan Tianyou. Born in 1861 in Guangdong Province, he showed an interest in machines at an early age. At eleven, he went to study in the US. Upon his graduation from Yale University in 1881, Zhan returned to China and began his work on the Jingzhang Railway in 1905.

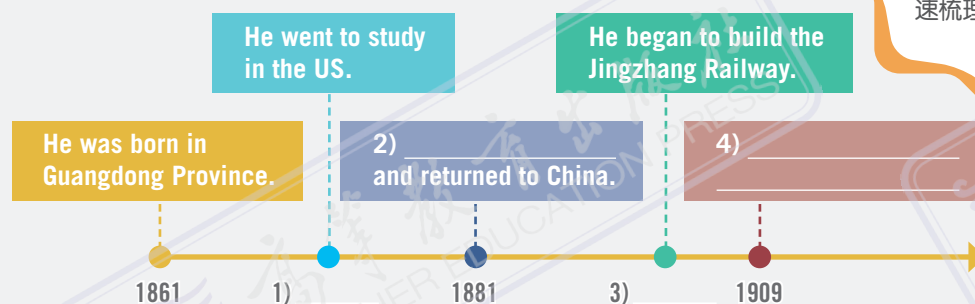
The Jingzhang Railway must go through an area of hills and mountains. At that time, many people believed no one could ever build a railway there. However, Zhan Tianyou overcame all kinds of difficulties and succeeded in finishing the task. The 200-kilometer-long railway was completed in 1909, two years ahead of schedule. It is considered a brilliant piece of work in Chinese railway history.



11 Read and complete.

再读上页课文，补全以下有关詹天佑的信息。

Important Events in Zhan Tianyou's Life



TIPS

阅读按时间顺序组织
的文章时，可借助时间
标志词建立时间线，快
速梳理文章脉络。

12 Read and decide.

细读上页课文，判断以下说法的正误。

- ☐ 1) The Jingzhang Railway was the first railway built in China.
- ☐ 2) The Jingzhang Railway was designed by Zhan Tianyou's foreign friends.
- ☐ 3) There are many hills and mountains along the Jingzhang Railway.
- ☐ 4) The time plan for building the Jingzhang Railway was 6 years.

13 Read and complete.

根据上页课文内容，完成以下京张铁路信息卡。

Jingzhang Railway	
Chief engineer	Zhan Tianyou
Length	_____
Time spent to build it	_____
The main difficulty	The railway must _____ an area of _____
Why people remember it	Because it was the first of its kind _____ _____ by Chinese people, and they _____ all kinds of _____ to build it.

Culture Understanding**The Invention of the Train**

With the invention of the train, people could travel long distances at a higher speed more easily. The following people are remembered for their contributions to this great **breakthrough**^①:

James Watt — improving steam engines

James Watt was a British engineer. He improved the steam engine and made it an effective **source**^② of power in 1776.

Richard Trevithick — inventing steam locomotives^③

Richard Trevithick was a British engineer. Working on Watt's steam engines, he managed to build one of the first steam locomotives in 1804.

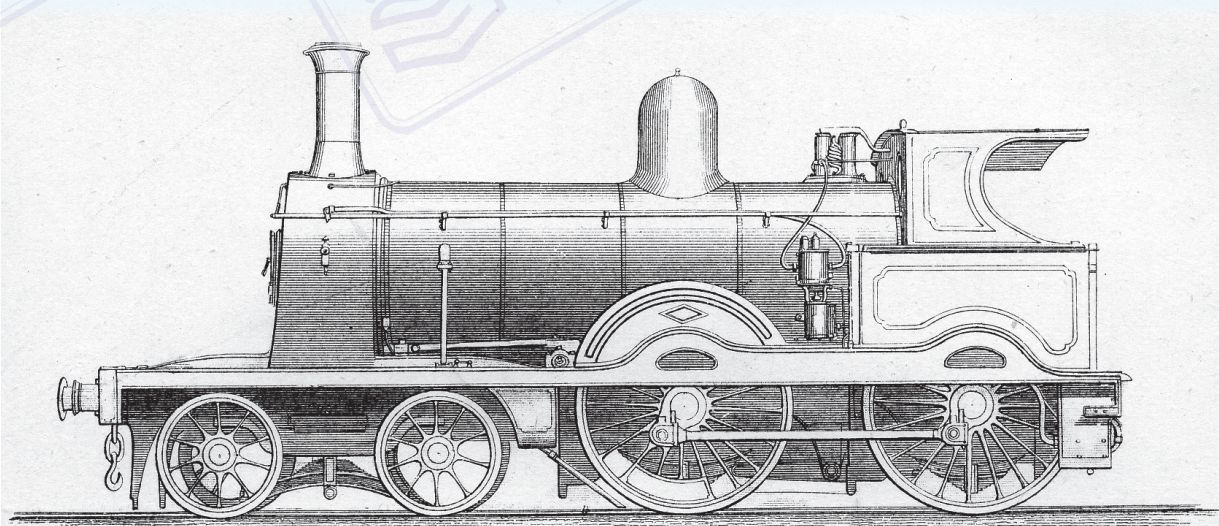
George Stephenson — building steam locomotives for railways

The British inventor George Stephenson produced the world's first **commercial**^④ passenger steam locomotive in 1825 and was later called "The Father of Railways". Through his efforts, trains gradually became a major means of transportation, with railways spread all over the world.

**Q:**

In recent years, China's high-speed railway has become faster and more convenient. How does this influence our life?

- ① 突破 ② 来源 ③ 火车头 ④ 商用的



Language Practice

Grammar

情态动词



Could you teach me a little bit about it?

More people *could buy* paper and *use* it to record and share knowledge.

I can't live without it.

Should I go there?

The Jingzhang Railway *must go* through an area of hills and mountains.

14 Read and underline.

阅读以下短对话，标出其中的情态动词和实义动词。

- 1) A: Can you give me a few minutes?
B: Sorry, I can't. I'm running out of time now.

- 2) A: I want to be a good mechanic in the future.
B: Then you should be a good learner first.

- 3) A: May I borrow your chair?
B: Yes, of course.

- 4) A: Must I attend the meeting tomorrow?
B: Yes, you must.

- 5) A: Excuse me. Could you help me, please?
B: Sure. What can I do for you?

15 Read and match.

将以下句子与对应的建议相匹配。

1) I want Jim to say sorry to Mary for me.

2) I am getting fat.

3) It's too noisy outside.

4) I am not feeling very well.

5) I have difficulty getting up early.

A. You can close the window.

B. You could try going to bed early.

C. You may eat less and do more sports.

D. You should really do it yourself.

E. You must see a doctor.

16 Read and complete.

用适当的情态动词和所给动词补全以下对话。

1) — _____ you _____ (help) me?

I _____ (not work) it out by myself.

— Yes, of course.

2) — _____ I _____ (use) your pen? I forgot to bring mine.

— Of course. You _____ (find) it in my schoolbag.

3) — _____ I _____ (wear) jacket or suit tomorrow?

— You _____ (wear) suit as the meeting is formal.

4) — What _____ we _____ (do) to protect the earth?

— We _____ (reduce) CO₂ and plant more trees.

5) — Ah! The message says I have won big money.


— Don't be a fool. This _____ (not be) true. They _____ (be) cheating you.

► Vocabulary

17 Choose and complete.


选择合适的短语，用其适当形式补全以下句子。

- 1) The road _____ Shanghai to Suzhou.
- 2) James Watt began to _____ math when he was quite young.
- 3) After days of hard work, our group finished the project _____.
- 4) China has _____ building the largest high-speed railway system in the world.
- 5) He gave up a job offer in a big city and _____ his hometown after graduation.

- 
- show an interest in
 - succeed in
 - ahead of schedule
 - stretch from
 - return to

18 Read and complete.

用所给单词的适当形式补全以下短文。

- 
- 1) _____ people in different times worked hard to make our world a better place. For example, after Cai Lun 2) _____ the method of paper-making, people could better 3) _____ and share knowledge. After people 4) _____ the railway system, long distance travel became much easier. However, changing the world is not easy. People must 5) _____ all kinds of difficulties to make their dream come true.



Group Work

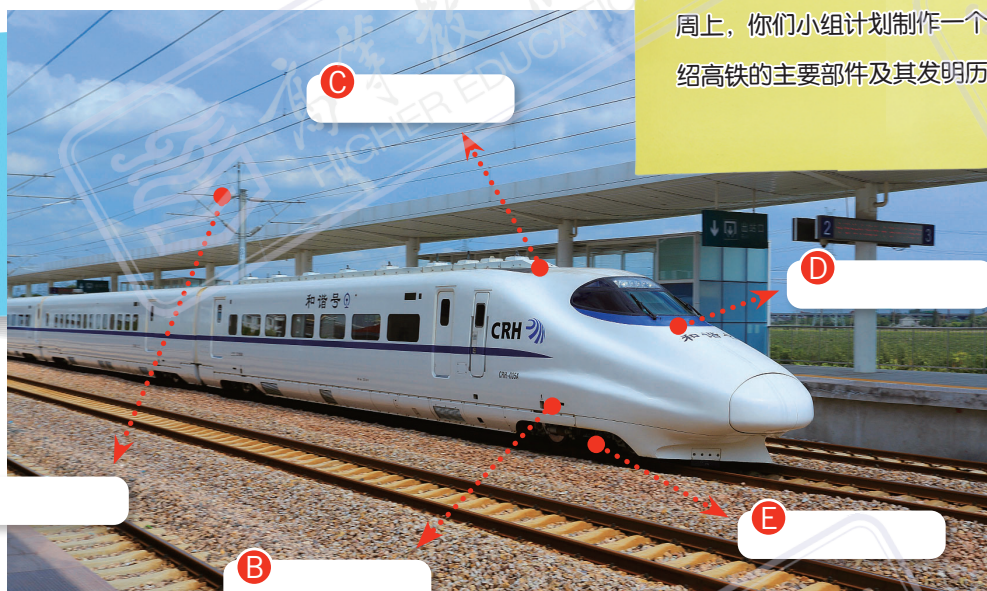
Make an information board about the high-speed railway system.

- ① Identify in the picture the five parts of the high-speed railway system listed below. 在下图中标出高铁系统的五个组成部分。

Situation

一个多世纪以来，我国的铁路建设从无到有，从有到强，现已建成全球规模最大的高铁系统。在即将举办的校园科技周上，你们小组计划制作一个展板，介绍高铁的主要部件及其发明历程。

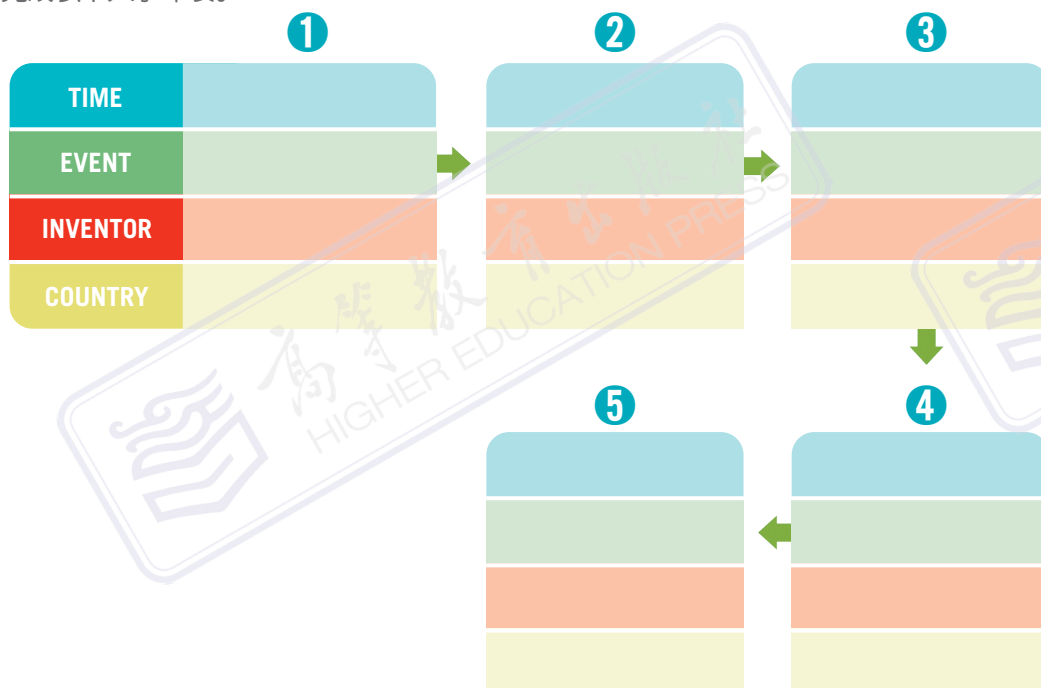
- wheel
- electricity
- engine
- computer
- locomotive



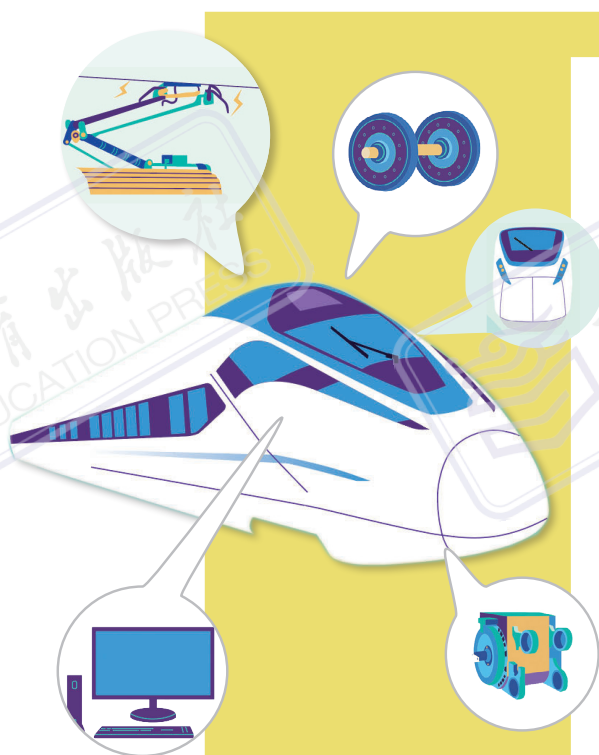
- ② Do some research on the following inventions and complete the table below. 查阅有关以下发明的背景资料，将下表填写完整。

Part	Possible Time of Invention	Inventor	Country
wheel	3000 BC — 500 BC	unknown	unknown
electricity			
engine			
locomotive			
computer			

- ③ Finish the flow chart below based on the information you have. 根据上页表中信息，完成以下大事年表。



- ④ Make an information board and share it with the class. You can use the sample below to help you. 制作信息展板，补全以下信息并向全班汇报展示。



The high-speed railway system has many parts. We have studied five of them: the electricity, the wheel, the engine, the computer and the locomotive.

These five parts were invented at different times in history. The time order of their invention is _____, _____, _____ and _____. And these inventions were made by people from different countries, such as _____, _____ and _____.

This study tells us that most great achievements today _____ (are based on / have nothing to do with) the work of the people in the past. People from different countries work _____ (just by themselves / together as a whole) to build a better world.

-
- A word cloud featuring various terms associated with the project. The most prominent words are 'consider' and 'overcome' in large blue letters, and 'record' in large green letters. Other visible words include 'brilliant', 'return to graduation', 'schedule', 'chat', 'chief', 'stretch', 'design', 'complete', 'invention', 'invent', 'succeed in', 'believe', 'ebook reader', and 'show an interest in'. The words are arranged in a circular pattern, with some overlapping.

- After completing this unit, I can**

- [illegible]