

Long Distance Communication

People have always needed to communicate with each other. If people are close enough to see and hear each other, they can talk. If they are far apart it is more difficult. The way we communicate over distance is changing all the time.



Two hundred years ago, if you wanted to communicate with someone far away you had to send a letter. It could take months.

One hundred years ago, you could talk to someone hundreds of miles away by telephone. Alexander Graham Bell was a teacher of deaf children. He worked out how electricity could carry the human voice. In 1876, Bell invented the telephone. People could now talk directly to each other, even if they were some distance apart.



Today, we can communicate with people all over the world in lots of different ways. We can talk on mobile phones, send faxes, read text messages and send emails. As well as using words, we can send moving pictures, sounds, and music.

Questions:

1. How did people communicate in the past?
2. Who was Alexander Graham Bell?
3. What did he discover?
4. How did the invention of the telephone change how people could communicate?
5. What ways of communicating do we have today?
6. In what ways are today's methods of communication better than those in the past?
7. What do you think communication means?