

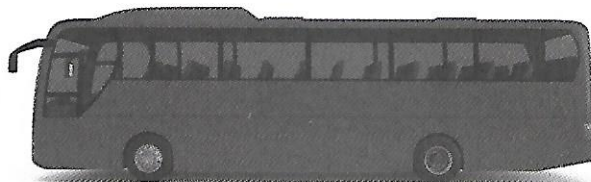
Finding Information in Non-Fiction

Inventing the Wheel

Imagine life without wheels. With no cars, trains, bikes or buses – or even wheelbarrows – getting around would be miserably slow. Luckily, wheels were invented a long, long time ago.

Wheel-free world

6,000 years ago, no one had wheels. But it didn't matter so much because, in those days, there were hardly any roads. Many people lived in forests, deserts or boggy swamps, where wheels wouldn't have been much use. They walked everywhere, and used animals to carry heavy loads.



1 Where did many people used to live 6,000 years ago?



2 Why didn't it matter that there were not many roads 6,000 years ago?



3 Tick to show what people and animals did before wheels were invented.

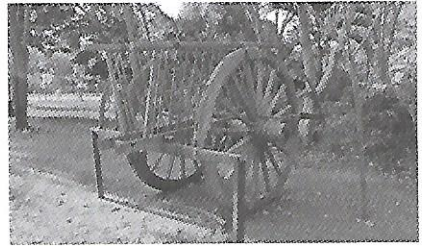
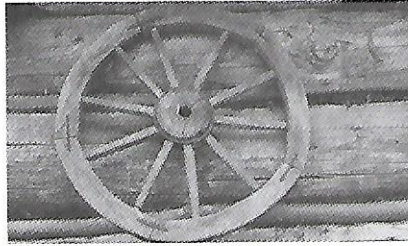
	People	Animals
carried heavy loads		
walked everywhere		



Finding Information in Non-Fiction

Did you know?

Nobody knows exactly where or when the first wheel was invented, but the earliest pictures of wheels are around 5,200 years old, and come from Sumeria (an ancient civilization in what is now Iraq). They show carts with solid, wooden wheels made from planks, pulled by onagers (a type of wild donkey). It would have been a bumpy ride, but wheels helped the Sumerians to travel faster and carry loads much more easily than before.



4 What is an *onager*?

Tick one.

a solid, wooden wheel

a wild donkey

a cart

a plank



1 mark

5 In which modern country was Sumeria once found?



1 mark

6 What were early wheels made from?



1 mark

Total marks /6

How am I doing?

