

SUNDAY MAGAZINE

Easy like Sunday morning

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The only way to be sure of catching a train is to miss the one before it: G.K. Chesterton

1Born on June 9, 1781, this gentleman is responsible for spearheading one of the most important technological inventions of the 19th century, which was a key component of the Industrial Revolution. In 1825, he and his son Robert built the first steam locomotive that could carry passengers on a public rail line. He was also responsible for building the first railway line between Liverpool and Manchester in 1830. He is commemorated in various railway stations for his contribution. Who was this revolutionary engineer?

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instance of a delay of over five minutes, the company issues a delay certificate which passengers can show at their workplace. Further delays usually make it to the news. Which country has such a fastidious train service?

3 Indian Locomotives have a three-letter classification system, which describes their track gauge, motive power and function. For example, the first letters could be 'W' meaning 'wide (broad) gauge', 'Y' for metre gauge (yard) or 'Z' for narrow gauge. The second letter could be 'D' (diesel), 'C' (DC overhead line, 'A' (AC overhead line). The most common third letters are G, P & M. If 'M' stands for 'Mixed' what do 'G' and 'P' stand for?

4 The East Indian Railway Nr. 22 is a steam locomotive built in 1855. It is usually inside a museum but once in a while runs between New Delhi and Alwar. As of 1998, it is in the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the world's oldest steam locomotive in regular service. What is the name of this historic locomotive, which sounds like a character from a children's tale?

5 There are two Unesco World Heritage Sites on Indian Railways. One of them comprises three separate narrow gauge railway lines running in Darjeeling, Nilgiris and the Kalka-Shimla route. They were given the prestigious status because of 'outstanding examples of bold, ingenious engineering solutions'. By what name, which refers to the terrain all three are found in, are these railways collectively known as?

6 On the British Rail Network on rare occasions unadvertised trains run at obscure times, mostly in the dead of the night and through routes that are not usually followed by the normal trains. These trains, run purely for the purpose of keeping the line open, are not meant for passenger use. Some people have a hobby of hunting for these trains. What is the name for these spooky trains?

7 In the U.S., on common passenger trains, this particular phenomenon is based on major 6th chords which are used in music to give a pleasant happy feeling. On freight trains, the same uses diminished 7th chords, which are dissonant and give an uncomfortable feeling. What is this interesting thing that is found on American trains?

8 A 'norry' is an improvised vehicle that runs on train lines in Cambodia. Despite their basic design these run real fast; they top at 50 km/h whereas the government trains run at 30 km/h. Usually run by tractor engines, norries carry people, rice, livestock and tourists. If a train or another norry comes in the opposite direction it takes two people only five minutes to dis-assemble, lift the norry and then re-assemble it after the other has passed. By what name are these trains known as, which is a reference to the strong but light main building material the norries are made of?

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through eight states at a speed of 91 km/h. It was started in 2011 to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, and hence the name. The Maharashtra Express (No.11040) which runs from Nagpur Junction to Ajni (also in Nagpur) starts at 10:50 a.m. and arrives at 11:03 a.m. at a top speed of 13 km/h. What interesting records do these two trains hold in India?

10Srirampur and Belapur are two different stations in Maharashtra's Ahmednagar district. They share the same railway track though. This leads to the unique circumstance where your destination depends on which side you de-board the train from. How is Srirampur station placed in relation to Belapur station?

A molecular biologist from Madurai, our quizmaster enjoys trivia and music, and is working on a rock ballad called 'Coffee is a Drink, Kaapi is an Emotion'. @bertyashley
