**Олимпиадное задание по чтению для уровня А1 школьного этапа**

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**Задание по чтению уровня А1-А2**

A Ferris wheel is a big **structure** made of **steel** that stands straight into the sky. Passenger **cabins** are **connected** to a moving wheel. The Ferris wheel is also called **observation** wheel because it takes passengers high up into the sky where they have a great **view** of the world around them.

The first such observation wheel was built by George Ferris, an American bridge builder. He **designed** and **constructed** a big wheel for the Chicago **Exposition** in1893. His name was used for all the big wheels that were built later.

Ferris’ first wheel was able to carry more than 2000 passengers. It was over 80 meters high and powered by two **steam engines**. The 37 cabins were able to carry 60 passengers each.

Today, Ferris wheels are big **attractions** in major cities around the world. Smaller wheels can be found at **local fairs**, carnivals or **theme parks**. The world’s biggest Ferris wheel is **currently** the Singapore Flyer. The wheel reaches 165 meters into the sky and started **rotating** in 2008. An even bigger Ferris wheel is being built in Beijing, China. It is planned to reach a **height** of 208 meters and will start operation some time in 2009.

The biggest observation wheel of the western world is the London Eye. It opened on December 31, 1999 – the last day of the **millennium**. The wheel takes visitors 135 meters up and gives them a fascinating view of the British capital.

Ferris wheels have played a role in many books and films. Vienna’s Riesenrad may be the star among **popular** Ferris wheels. The final scene of Graham Greene’s “Third Man” plays there.

1. A Ferris wheel is a big observation wheel.(Т)
2. The first observation wheel was built in 18 century.(F)
3. Ferris wheel could carry 60 passengers. (F)
4. The biggest wheel in the world is in Beijing, China. (T)
5. The London Eye gives a great view of the suburbs. (F)
6. You can see Ferris wheels in many films. (T)

<https://www.english-online.at/entertainment/ferris-wheel/observation-wheels.htm>