

Part A: Read.

Do you have friends or family who live far away? How do you talk to them?

There are many ways to communicate with people who are far away. We can speak on the telephone. We can even make video calls using MSN or Skype on the internet. Some people send emails. Some people write letters. Some write text messages. Some post on websites like Facebook and Hi5. In 2011, it's easy to talk with friends from all over the world.



What did people do 150 years ago? There were no computers, no mobile phones, no internet. How did people stay in touch?

Many people used to write letters and post them. But this was very slow. It often took weeks to send a letter.



But in 1859, the American Samuel Morse invented Morse Code. His code was made of beeps. Short beeps called dots, and long beeps called dashes. People liked it because you could send a message in Morse Code and get a reply almost immediately.

This is his code.

Letter	Morse Code	Letter	Morse Code	Letter	Morse Code
A	.-	J	.-.-.	S	...-
B	-...-	K	-.-	T	-
C	-.-.-	L	.-..	U	..-
D	-..-	M	--	V	...-
E	.	N	-.-	W	.-.-
F	..-.-	O	---	X	-.--
G	--.	P	.-.-	Y	-.--
H	Q	--.-	Z	--..
I	..	R	-.-	Stop	.-.-.-