Teacher’s Copy

Spelling

The Chunnel

Instructions:

- Explain to the pupils that the complete passage will be read aloud while they follow in their own booklet.
- Explain to the pupils that they will hear the passage a second time and they should write in the words spoken by the teacher in the correct gaps.
- Allow the pupils sufficient time to write in the missing word before continuing to read the passage.
There is now a tunnel under the English Channel which is called ‘The Chunnel’. In the ______ past ______, travelling between England and France by sea involved hopping on and off ferries. For anyone ______ suffering ______ from seasickness, this was definitely the worst part of ______ their ______ journey. It took ______ nearly ______ 200 years of debate and planning, but finally, in 1994, the Chunnel was built.

A French engineer proposed the ______ original ______ idea for a cross-channel tunnel in 1802. However, because the ______ available ______ technology was limited, this plan was abandoned.
Over the years, various schemes were proposed, but plans were always **stopped**.

While many people **thought** it might be **useful** to have a channel tunnel, others feared it would leave them open to invasion. It took until 1987 for the **decision** to be made and England and France **signed** an agreement permitting the building of the Channel Tunnel between the two **countries**.

The Chunnel is more than 50 kilometres long and the **deepest** point is almost 115 metres below sea level. The new railway system opened in 1994, making **holiday** and business trips much easier. Travellers can now go **straight** from London to Paris in less than three hours.