**How the world's longest underwater tunnel was built - Alex Gendler**

Flanked by two powerful nations, the English Channel has long been one of the world’s most important maritime passages. Yet for most of its history, crossing was a dangerous prospect. Engineers proposed numerous plans for spanning the gap, including a design for an underwater passage more than twice the length of any existing tunnel. Alex Gendler details the creation of the Channel Tunnel.

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1. What was one of the reasons why the crossing of the English Channel was considered risky in the past?

**a. The rough weather conditions**

b. The presence of artificial islands

c. The construction of underwater bridges

d. The existence of a submarine passage

2. What changed in the late 18th century that made the idea of a tunnel under the English Channel more feasible?

a. The discovery of a stable layer of limestone

**b. The development of underwater tunneling technology**

c. The resolution of economic problems

d. The improvement of communication between France and England

3. What initially prevented the construction of the Channel Tunnel?

a. Geological instability

**b. Military concerns**

c. Lack of funding

d. Political disagreements

4. How was the construction of the Channel Tunnel funded?

**a. Private financing from French and British companies**

b. Government grants from France and England

c. Donations from international organizations

d. Crowdfunding from the public

5. How many separate tunnels were included in the Channel Tunnel project?

a. 1

b. 2

**c. 3**

d. 4

6. What were the purposes of the three separate tunnels in the Channel Tunnel project?

**a. Passenger trains, freight trains, and a service tunnel**

b. Passenger trains, car transportation, and a maintenance tunnel

c. Freight trains, car transportation, and an emergency exit tunnel

d. Passenger trains, maintenance equipment, and an emergency evacuation tunnel

7. What challenges did the engineers face while excavating the Channel Tunnel?

**a. Water infiltration and unstable rock formations**

b. Lack of proper tools and machinery

c. Lack of coordination between French and British teams

d. Political opposition and public protests

8. How did the engineers deal with the water infiltration during the excavation?

**a. Using waterproof drilling machines**

b. Filling the cracks with concrete

c. Utilizing satellite technology for locating the fissures

d. Employing paleontologists to study the geological formations

9. What were the coordinates accuracy requirements for the tunnel excavation?

a. Within 5 centimeters

b. Within 10 centimeters

**c. Within 2 centimeters**

d. Within 1 centimeter

10. How many years did it take to complete the construction of the Channel Tunnel?

a. 5 years

**b. 8 years**

c. 10 years

d. 13 years