# Lesson 64: The Channel Tunnel

The Channel Tunnel

Why was the first tunnel not completed?

In 1858, a French engineer, Aimé Thomé de Gamond, arrived in England with a plan for a twenty-one-mile tunnel under the English Channel.

He said that it would be possible to build a platform in the center of the channel.

This platform would serve as a port and a railway station.

The tunnel would be well-ventilated if tall chimneys were built above sea level.

In 1860, a better plan was put forward by an Englishman, William Low.

He suggested that a double railway tunnel should be built.

This would solve the problem of ventilation, for if a train entered this tunnel, it would draw in fresh air behind it.

Forty-two years later, a tunnel was actually begun.

If, at the time, the British had not feared invasion, it would have been completed.

The world had to wait almost another 100 years for the Channel Tunnel.

It was officially opened on March 7, 1994, finally connecting Britain to the European continent.

The tunnel, which the French engineer Aimé Thomé planned to build under the English Channel in 1858, would be ventilated by tall chimneys built above sea level.

An Englishman, William Low, suggested a better plan two years later.

Passing trains would solve the problem of ventilation in his proposed double railway tunnel because they would draw in fresh air behind them.

Though work began forty-two years later, it was stopped because the British feared invasion.

However, the tunnel was officially opened on March 7, 1994.

Thanks to the English Channel, which separates Britain from Europe, the country has not been invaded since 1066.

However, now that modern warfare is far more complex, such fears no longer exist.

Both Britain and Europe benefit enormously from a Channel Tunnel.

If he is out, I will call tomorrow.

You'll miss the train if you don't hurry.

If you went to the exhibition, you would enjoy it.

If I were in your position, I would act differently.

You would have missed the train if you had not hurried.

If you had gone to the exhibition, you would have enjoyed it.

If I had been in your position, I would have acted differently.

If you could have made him change his mind, you would have saved him a lot of trouble.

If you had told me about it earlier, I would have been able to help you.

If you could have come with us, we would have been pleased.

You would not have made such a mistake if you had been more careful.

If Father were alive, he would be horrified.

If it is fine tomorrow, we shall go for a swim.

If a train entered this tunnel, it would draw in fresh air behind it.

The dog drew back and went in terror when it saw the snake.

A taxi drew up outside the bank.

Two men got out, and then the taxi drew off.

A new trading agreement was drawn up between Holland and Denmark.

We shall have to draw up a new plan.

When I recognized who he was, I drew back in horror.

The car drew up outside the cinema.

William Low's idea was better than de Gamond's because his tunnel would be better ventilated.

Work on the Channel Tunnel began a long time after William Low put up his plan.

It would be possible to build a platform.

A platform could be built.

He suggested building a double railway tunnel.

This would solve the problem.

That's how the problem would be solved.

If a train entered this tunnel, it would draw in fresh air behind it.

People were interested in the idea of a Channel Tunnel.

The tunnel would be well ventilated.

It would have good ventilation.

A plan was put forward by William Low.

He suggested it.

The British feared invasion.

They were afraid of it.

It finally connects Britain and Europe.

Britain and Europe are finally joined together.

The tunnel has now been completed.

It has been finished.

In 1860, a better plan was put forward by an Englishman, William Low.

He suggested that a double railway tunnel should be built.