

D Skills and techniques

25 pts

1. Pass on the information.

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Dein Freund muss eine Präsentation über die Firma Piaggio vorbereiten. Er findet im Internet Informationen. Da seine Englischkenntnisse nicht sehr gut sind, bittet er dich um Hilfe. Beantworte seine Fragen auf Deutsch.

1. Wo wurde die Firma gegründet? (1)
2. Arbeitet Herr Rinaldo Piaggio noch in der Firma? (1)
3. Was produzierte die Firma vor ca. 100 Jahren? (2 items) (2)
4. Wer ist D'Ascenio? (1)
5. Was war seine bedeutendste Entwicklung abgesehen vom ersten modernen Hubschrauber? (1)
6. Welche Eigenschaften sollte das Transportmittel, das er entwickeln wollte, haben? (3 items) (3)
7. Warum wurde die Vespa 'Vespa' genannt? (1)
8. Wo, außer in Italien, wurde die Vespa noch produziert? (4 items) (2)
9. Welche Möglichkeiten eröffnete die erste Vespa ihren Besitzern? (1)

Vespa History

The Beginning

Piaggio was founded in Genoa, Italy in 1884 by twenty-year-old Rinaldo Piaggio. Rinaldo's business began with luxury ship fitting. But by the end of the century, Piaggio was also producing rail carriages and trains. With the outbreak of World War I, the company broke new ground with the production of airplanes and seaplanes. In 1917 Piaggio bought a new factory in Pisa, and four years later it took over a small factory in Pontedera in the Tuscany region of Italy. It was this factory in Pontedera which became its new center for aeronautical production (propellers, engines and complete aircraft). During World War II, the Pontedera factory built the state-of-the-art P 108 four-engine aircraft, in both passenger and bomber versions. However, the factory was completely destroyed by Allied bombers due to its military importance.

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Rebirth

Piaggio came out of the conflict with its Pontedera factory in complete ruin. Enrico Piaggio who had taken over from his father Rinaldo, decided to focus the company's attention on the personal mobility needs of the Italian people. Piaggio's ingenious aeronautical engineer D'Ascenio who had designed, constructed and flown the first modern helicopter could not stand motorcycles. So he dreamed up a revolutionary new vehicle by designing a simple, sturdy, and economical vehicle that was also comfortable and elegant. The front forks allowed for easy wheel changing. The result was an aircraft-inspired design that to this day remains forward-thinking and unique among all other two-wheeled vehicles.

Upon seeing the vehicle, Enrico Piaggio remarked "Sembra una Vespa" ("It looks like a wasp") This was a real two-wheeled utility vehicle. But it did not resemble an uncomfortable and noisy motorcycle. The steel frame's shape protected the rider from road dirt and debris. It emanated class and elegance at first glance. By the end of 1949, 35,000 units had been produced. Italy was getting over its war wounds and getting about on Vespas. In ten years, one million were produced. By the mid-fifties, Vespa was being produced in Germany, Great Britain, France, Belgium, Spain and, of course, Italy.

Vespa has lived on from one generation to the next, subtly modifying its image each time. The first Vespa offered mobility to everyone. Then, it became the two-wheeler of the post war economic boom. During the sixties and seventies, the vehicle became a symbol for the revolutionary ideas of the time. And the story continues today with the new generation of Vespa models.



Translate the text into German

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The only problem with scooters is that they can be dangerous.

1

In London, for example, scooter riders are killed or seriously injured almost every day.

2

Scooter riders make up about half of all motorcycle accidents in the capital.

2

Small motorcycles and scooters are more often involved in accidents than larger ones, especially when riders are young and inexperienced.

3

Always remember that if there is a collision between a car and your scooter, you and the scooter will come off worst, even if it is not your fault.

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Lösungen WET 2008

Lösungen WET 2008 - Scooters

A. Text-based tasks

1. Finish the following sentences using the information from the text.

- Seaside towns were the places to which young people rode on their scooters in the 1960s.
- If you want to share your interest in scooters you can join a scooter club or browse scooter internet message boards.
- The petrol consumption of a scooter is as little as 2 litres per 100 km.

2. Answer the questions in complete sentences.

- They are used by whole families and to transport their luggage.
- Scooters use very little gas, they are cheap and easy to park.
- Most collisions happen while overtaking and at crossroads.

3. Ask questions.

How fast does this scooter go?

How much do you want for it?

Did you ever have an accident with this scooter?

Is it difficult to ride/drive?

Does it use a lot of gas?

B. Use of language

1. Find the opposites.

- less
- disadvantage
- wide

2. Find words or expressions that mean more or less the same.

- to use them in the right way / to use them how they were designed/built for
- to break a leg or be wounded
- nearly

3. Explain two of the following words in complete sentences.

- Trendy clothes follow the latest fashion, these clothes are in at the moment.
- When you have enough money to buy something you can afford it.
- Freedom means for scooter riders to be able to go everywhere easily, especially in city traffic, where you can overtake cars in a jam or park your scooter easily.

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