

HOW FAST CAN WE TRAVEL....SOME CONCEPTS OF SPEED

THIS IS AN EXERCISE TO PROVIDE A CONCEPTUAL UNDERSTANDING OF HOW FAST AIRCRAFT AND SPACECRAFT TRAVEL.

1. Select two points that are separated by a distance most students are familiar with such as a nearby town or landmarks.
2. Review the following modes of travel:
  - \* Walking....@ 4km/hour
  - \* Riding a horse....@ 16km/hour
  - \* Using an automobile....@ 80km/hour
  - \* Flying in a personal Aircraft....@ 210km/hour
  - \* Traveling in a commercial airliner....@ 925km/hour
  - \* The jet fighter at top speed....@ 1700km/hour
  - \* A hypersonic rocket research aircraft....@ 5600km/hour
  - \* A satellite in orbit around the world....@ 28,800km/hour
  - \* A spacecraft going to another planet....@ 40,000km/hour

3. Determine the time it will take to travel between the two points selected for each of the above modes of travel:

From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_ km

Time required to travel:

Walking	_____
Horseback	_____
Automobile	_____
Personal Aircraft	_____
Airliner	_____
Jet Fighter	_____
Rocket Aircraft	_____
Satellite	_____
Space Probe	_____

4. For more advanced activity, discuss why each mode of travel is able to go as fast as indicated.

Note: Columbus sailed across the Atlantic Ocean in about 1734 hours.....today we can fly across in about 6 1/2 hours.