

# The Pony Express

In the middle of the 19th century, mail sent to California frequently required a lengthy sea passage or a 25-day stagecoach trip. The Pony Express could deliver mail from Missouri to California in ten days. Alexander Majors, William Waddell, and William H. Russell were the Pony Express's owners. On their journey west on the Pony Express, lone riders would switch horses every 10 to 15 miles. A new rider picked up their mail after traveling between 75 and 100 kilometers. In Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, and California, 200 stations were built where travelers could switch horses or pick up the mail. When one of their sleighs brought the Lincoln Inaugural Address, the trip from Nebraska to California was at its best. Lincoln's Inaugural Address was transported by one of their riders from Nebraska to California in the fastest time ever—seven days and 17 hours. The Pony Express Company only existed for around 1.5 years.

Answer the following questions.

Q1. In how many days could the Pony Express deliver?

A: \_\_\_\_\_

Q2. Name the owners of the Pony Express.

A: \_\_\_\_\_

Q3. How many stations were built for the Pony Express?

A: \_\_\_\_\_

Q4. What was the fastest time ever for the Pony Express?

A: \_\_\_\_\_

Q5. How long did the Pony Express last?

A: \_\_\_\_\_