

WORLD NEWS

CHINA

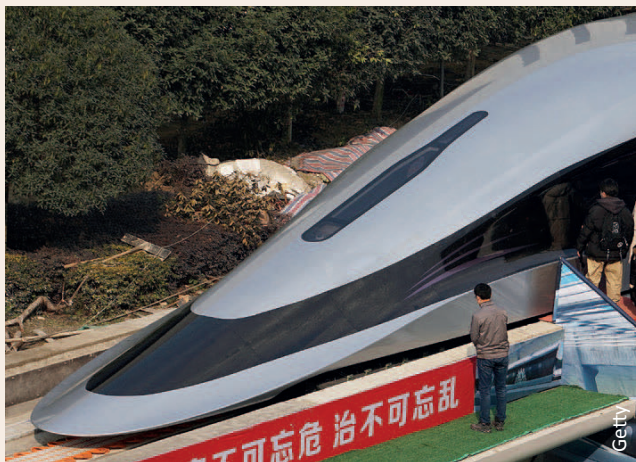


TREMENDOUS TRAIN

HOLD on to your hats, folks as a seriously speedy bullet train is being developed in China.

The new locomotive has been unveiled in Chengdu. It is said to reach a top speed of 385 miles per hour! It's so fast you could travel from London to Edinburgh in just over an hour (a journey that normally takes over five hours!).

A bullet train uses magnets to prevent the train rubbing on the tracks. In fact, it hovers! This enables the train to travel at such high speeds. The first bullet train was developed in Japan in 1964.



PAKISTAN-CHINA



K2 CONQUERED!

NIRMAL Purja and his team have become the first mountaineers to climb to the top of K2 in winter.

K2 is the second highest mountain in the world, after Mount Everest. It is known as the 'savage mountain' and no-one has ever climbed it in the winter before. Until now.

Nirmal Purja said he wanted to make "the impossible possible" and succeeded by reaching the summit on 16h January.

He added: "What a journey! I'm humbled to say that, as a team, we have summited the magnificent K2 in extreme winter conditions.. We are honoured to be sharing this moment."



USA



BITCOIN BLUNDER

A MAN is about to lose a quarter of a million dollars because he can't remember his password!

Stefan Thomas was given 7,002 bitcoins about ten years ago. At the time they were only worth a few dollars each. They are now worth nearly \$250 million.

Bitcoin is a type of digital money. The 'coins' are kept in a digital wallet called an Iron Key, which needs a password to open it.

Unfortunately for Stefan, he has forgotten his password and Iron Key wallets only allow you ten tries before you are locked out forever. Stefan has already had eight goes!

He has two chances left, but has little hope that he will remember.



Questions on: 'World News'

1) Choose the subjects in the news around the world this week.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> cars | <input type="checkbox"/> digital money |
| <input type="checkbox"/> oceans | <input type="checkbox"/> computers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a mountain | <input type="checkbox"/> trains |

2) What is similar about the way the **headlines** have been written?

Look at the news from China.

3) How does a bullet train work?

4) How does the journalist help you to understand the speed of this train?

Look at the news about the K2 climb.

5) Find two facts about K2.

6) Why do you think there are two countries in the heading of this story?

Look at the news from the USA.

7) Find the numbers.

_____ years ago a man was given _____ bitcoins.

He has already tried _____ different passwords to access the money, and has _____ tries left.

If he gets it wrong, he says goodbye to \$_____!

8) Would you describe this story as a **comedy** or a **tragedy**? Explain your choice!