



Student worksheet 3: Telegraph

I read, I think, therefore...

I read

Before Confederation

- Samuel Morse created the first working telegraph in 1836.
- The first *Telegraph Act* was made law in 1852, and in 1858 the first trans-Atlantic cables were in place.

1867 to 1920

- By 1868, cables became more successful in sending messages.
- During the First World War (1914 to 1918), the telegraph expanded in Canada. In 1916, _____ messages were delivered by telegraph and telegraph organizations employed 6,581 workers. _____ were female.

Canada Year Book 1916/1917, text on pages 480 to 481 (telegraph statistics).

1921 to 1967

- By 1965, there were nine Canadian telegraph and cable companies.
- Between 1956 and 1965, the number of telegrams sent in Canada dropped from _____ in 1956 to _____ in 1965 as other forms of communication developed.

Canada Year Book 1967, Table 6, page 873.

1800 to 1967

Summarize the pattern of increasing and decreasing use of telegraph cables in Canada. Now explain it.

I think

Give your thoughts about the development of the telegraph in Canada. Compare the number of telegrams sent at different points in the 1900s. In your own words, describe milestones in the development and decline of telegraph.

Therefore

Sum up your thoughts and draw at least one important conclusion about whether or not the government's goal to connect all Canadians was met.
