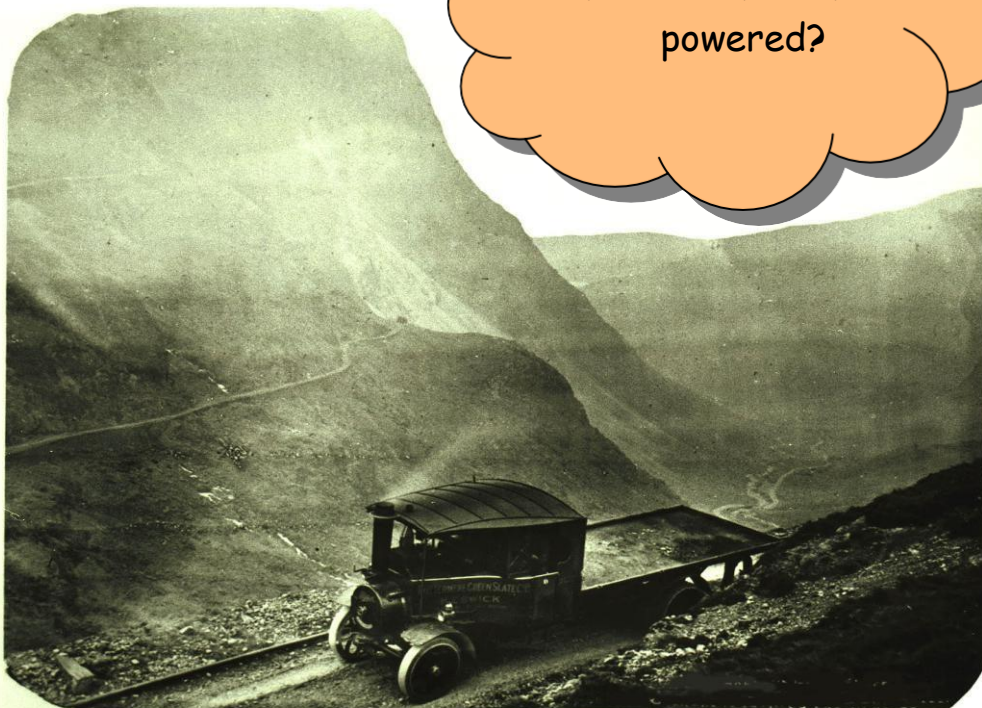


# Transporting the Slate

How old do you think this vehicle is? What clues are there?

What is the vehicle used for?

How is the vehicle powered?

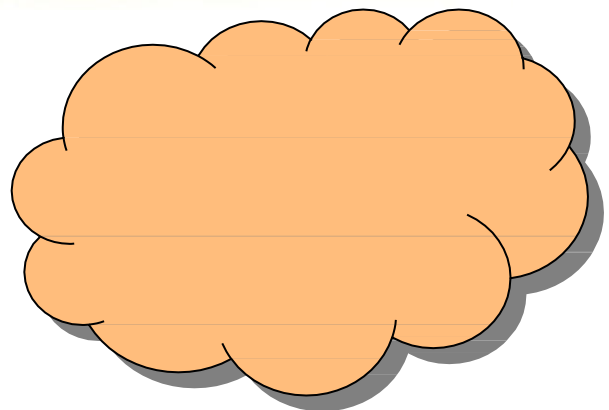
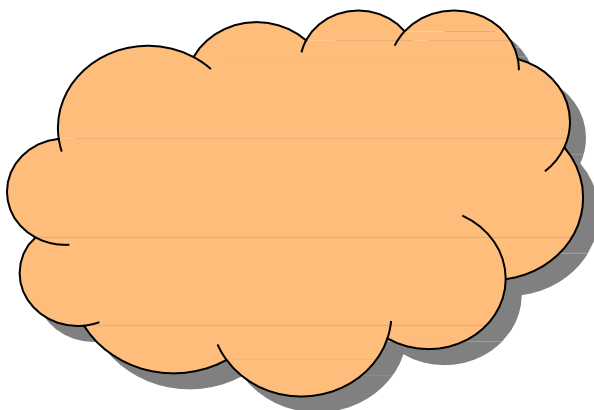
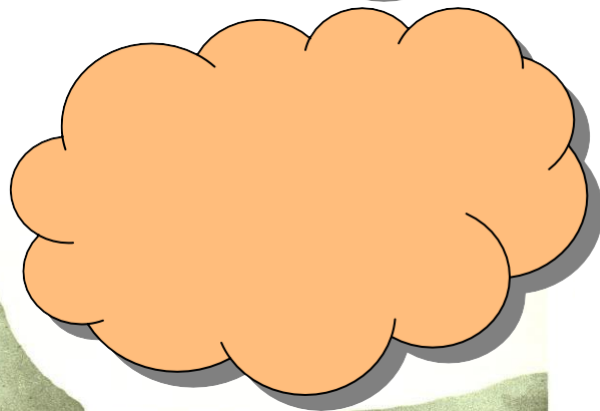
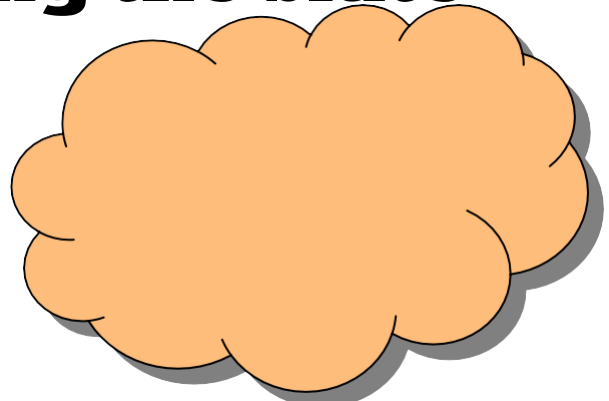
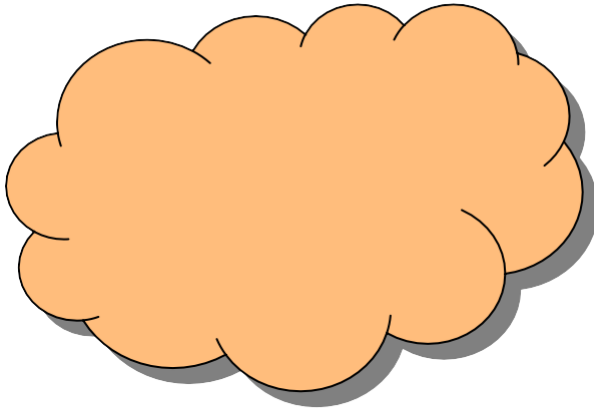


Where do you think it is going? Why?

Why is the vehicle empty? Where is it returning from?

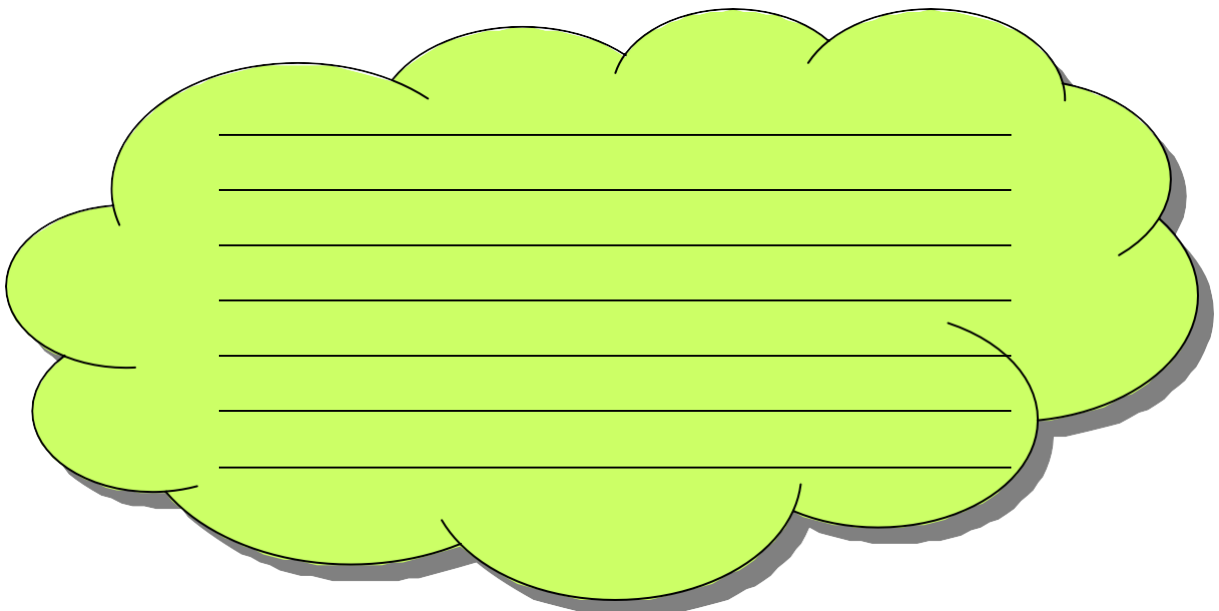
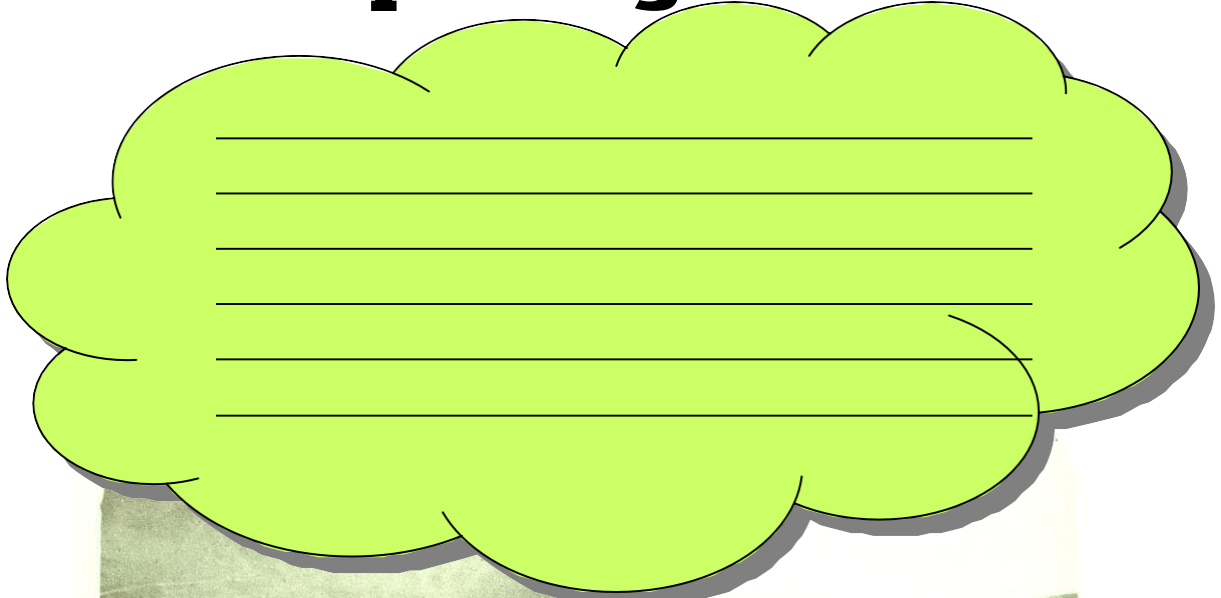
**Task:** Look at the questions on the last bubble sheet. Now in the speech bubbles below, write your answers in bullet point form.

## Transporting the Slate



**Task:** Write a small poem about transporting slate in the bubble below. Try to include at least 3 of the key words you have mentioned in your answer sheet. Then get a friend to mark this for you. Make your improvements and write your best poem in the bottom bubble.

## Transporting the Slate



# Transporting the Slate

- **Transporting** finished slated from this remote (out of the way) and mountainous site was always difficult.
- First **packhorses** (horses that carried the slate) were used. The packhorse tracks leading from Ash Gill and Bull Gill Quarries down to the Warnscale Beck show this method of moving slate.
- **Hand sledding** was used to transport slates down to the scree (waste slate) slopes from Bull Gill and Yew Crag to the Buttermere Road.
- **Skilled men** would run in front of **loaded sledges** holding onto two shafts (handles), steering the slates down the screes to the road below. A very dangerous occupation (job).



- In the **1880s railway tracks** carried trucks of slate. These were controlled by cables from a drumhouse. These were called **self-acting inclines**, as the weight went up, the truck went down with slate in it, and when the weight went down the truck went back up for more slate.

**1891 Joseph Clark** made 17 journeys in 1 day. He moved 42 ½ loads ( 10, 880lbs) of slate from the quarry to the road. He travelled a total of 17 miles that day. 8 ½ miles were up hill and he carried part of his load on his shoulders!