

Name _____

Old Tech, New Links Answer Key

1. **Problem Solved:** The telegraph solved the problem of slow communication across long distances.
2. **Worries:** People feared the rapid speed of messages would disrupt traditional, slower ways of communicating and overwhelm society.
3. **Modern Parallel:** The internet, smartphones, or social media parallel the telegraph. Each drastically sped up global communication.
Teacher Note: Acceptable answers may include email, texting, or video calls, as long as reasoning is explained.
4. **Connections:** Both technologies made communication faster, more widespread, and more accessible, transforming business, family connections, and daily life.
5. **Importance of Parallels:** Recognizing parallels helps students understand that innovations often bring both excitement and concern, and that history can provide insight into how society adapts to new technologies.

Teacher Note: Encourage students to think critically about how each "revolution" in communication brings opportunities and challenges.