



NAME: _____

THE KURANDA SCENIC RAILWAY LOCOMOTIVE

The locomotive for Kuranda Scenic Railway is a 1720 Class Diesel Electric Locomotive and was introduced in October 1966.

The diesel engine generates 1000 horsepower (i.e. the power of 1000 horses) and this mechanical power made by the locomotive is converted to electricity by its Main Generator to high voltage direct current for use in propelling the locomotive. A second generator converts a small amount of engine power to low voltage power for use in charging the locomotives battery, electrifying the main generator, operating the controls, locomotive light and accessories.

An onboard air compressor is used for operation of the Westinghouse brake system, sanding equipment, windscreen wipers and crew observation and of course the warning whistle!

The locomotive is relatively lightweight at 60 tonnes, allowing it to operate on lightweight branch line or suburban passenger train lines.

A total of 56 locomotives were built with the last unit entering service by the end of 1969. Each unit was numbered consecutively from 1720 through to 1775.

The early trains that travelled along the Kuranda Scenic Railway were powered by steam.

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LOCOMOTIVE QUESTIONS

1. Today the Kuranda Scenic Railway is driven by what kind of engine?

2. What year was this type introduced?

3. What type of train engine was used in the past?

4. Name something the onboard air compressor does?

5. How much horse power does the train's engine generate?

6. What is the weight of the Kuranda Scenic Railway locomotive?
