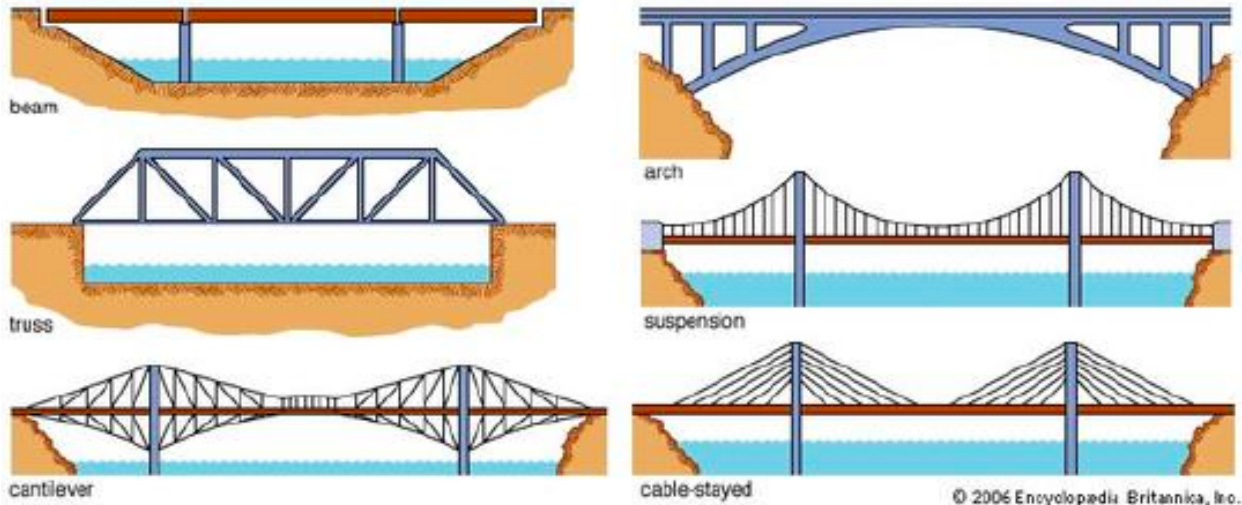


Bridge Types



BEAM :

The beam bridge is the oldest and most common type of bridge. A beam bridge is a horizontal structure. It has a support on each end. Other supports, called piers, may also hold up the bridge between the two ends. A log that crosses a stream is a beam bridge in its most basic form.

TRUSS:

The truss bridge has a support at each end. It may also rest on piers in between. A framework of metal or wood bars connects the two ends of the bridge. They often form a sort of tunnel through which the roadway passes.

CANTILEVER:

Made up of structures called cantilevers. A cantilever is a beam that has a pier at only one end, like a diving board. A framework of many bars adds strength to the beam. At least two of these beams stretch toward each other to form a cantilever bridge

ARCH:

This bridge was invented by the ancient Romans. It has support on each end. A single arch bridge. Other supports, called piers, may also hold up the bridge between the two ends. (double arch or more arches)

SUSPENSION:

The roadway hangs from strong wires called cables. The main cables hang between two or more towers. Smaller cables hang down from the curving main cables.

CABLE-STAYED:

Uses cables to support the roadway. Its cables run directly between the towers and the roadway. They attach to the roadway in straight, diagonal lines.