

2 ACCIDENTS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

Before you watch

A Pair work Think about times when you had these experiences. Tell your partner what happened.

1. You did something by accident that turned out to be lucky.
2. You suspected something that turned out to be correct.
3. You experimented with something new.
4. You noticed something unusual that could be useful.

A: I was late for work last week because I forgot to set my alarm.

B: How did that turn out to be lucky?

A: Well, I missed a big traffic accident because I was late!

B Group work Which actions do you think accidentally resulted in these inventions? Write the letter of the invention next to the correct action. Discuss and explain your answers.



a. a powerful medical treatment

b. a common household appliance

c. a special material for attaching things

1. taking a dog for a walk ____
2. forgetting to wash the dishes ____
3. bringing a snack to work ____

While you watch

A Write the letter of the correct word or phrase to complete each sentence. Were your answers in *Before you watch* part B correct?

- | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|---------------|
| a. the microwave | c. a magnetron | e. penicillin |
| b. hooks and loops | d. mold | f. Velcro |

1. ____ was discovered in 1928.
It started as ____ on some unwashed dishes.
2. In 1945, Percy Spencer was working with something called ____.
It melted his chocolate and led to the creation of ____.
3. George de Mestral identified that burrs work by using ____.
He had to try lots of prototypes to finally invent ____.

B Choose the correct answers according to the information in the video.

1. Alexander Fleming was _____ to help humans.
a. studying bacteria b. culturing molds c. mixing powerful drugs
2. Because Fleming _____, he noticed something interesting.
a. was away on vacation b. paid attention to an unusual change c. was positive he could find a wonder drug
3. Percy Spencer was standing next to the machine that melted the chocolate because he _____.
a. wanted to make a snack b. figured he could blow up eggs c. was working with military radar technology
4. Spencer's idea of containing his invention in a box was _____.
a. suggested by his co-workers b. the result of making a mess c. done to make its effects stronger
5. While removing burrs, George de Mestral was _____.
a. thinking about making new hunting clothes b. curious about what made them stick c. looking for a solution to his dog's problem
6. George de Mestral was confident his invention would be _____.
a. very useful for astronauts b. used as a prototype c. velcroed on it