



Inventions

- Read the following text about inventions

Throughout the years, there have been created many practical and innovative inventions. They have facilitated human lives in many aspects. The wheel was invented in 3500 B.C. The wheel allowed people to connect a non-moving platform to that rolling cylinder. It facilitated agriculture and commerce by enabling the transportation of goods to and from markets and easing the burdens of people traveling great distances. Now, wheels are vital to our way of life, found in everything from clocks to vehicles to turbines.

German inventor Johannes Gutenberg invented the printing press sometime between 1440 and 1450. With this movable type process, printing presses exponentially increased the speed with which book copies could be made, and thus they led to the rapid and widespread dissemination of knowledge for the first time in history. Among other things, the printing press permitted wider access to the Bible, which in turn led to alternative interpretations, including that of Martin Luther, whose "95 Theses" a document printed by the hundred-thousand sparked the Protestant Reformation.

The telephone was invented by Alexander Graham Bell, who was the first to be awarded a patent for the electric telephone on March 7th, 1876. The telephone was used as an "apparatus for transmitting vocal or other sounds telegraphically". The invention of the light bulb transformed our world by removing our dependence on natural light, allowing us to be productive at any time, day or night. Thomas Edison is credited as the primary inventor because he created a completely functional lighting system in 1879. As well as initiating the introduction of electricity in homes throughout the Western world, this invention also had a rather unexpected consequence of changing people's sleep patterns. Instead of going to bed at nightfall (having nothing else to do) and sleeping in segments throughout the night separated by periods of wakefulness, we now stay up except for the 7 to 8 hours allotted for sleep, and, ideally, we sleep all in one go.

- Write down the uses of the inventions mentioned in the reading and think of the uses and purposes they have now. Use infinitives or gerunds.

The Wheel



The past

Now

The printing press



The past

Now

The telephone



The past

Now

The light bulb



The past

Now