

How inventions change history.

Task 1. Watch video.

<https://youtu.be/0SMNYivhGsc>

Task 2. Choose the correct answer.

1. What was the “peculiar institution”?

- Yale
- The U.S. Constitution
- Slavery
- The American Revolution

2. Eli Whitney moved to South Carolina to become

- A dancing instructor
- A tutor
- A plantation owner
- A factory owner

3. According to Davis, a person could clean how much cotton by hand in a day?

- One pound
- Ten pounds
- One bale
- 300 pounds

4. The word “gin” in “cotton gin” means

- Whiskey
- Engine
- Ginger
- Ginseng

5. Before the cotton gin was widely available, the American slave population was 700,000 in 1790. By 1860, the narrator says, the slave population was:

- One million
- Three million
- Nearly four million
- None—they were all emancipated

Task 3. Think and answer.

- ✓ Davis starts by saying, "Imagine a machine that could cut ten hours of work down to one." Describe an industry today that would benefit greatly from this kind of machine. Do you foresee any negative consequences? What are the positive implications for such an innovation?
- ✓ We seldom think that technology or innovation can be harmful. Name some instances where technology has "gone wrong"? What have we done to combat this issue? Name a technology that has done incredible good for the world (without any known negative consequences).
- ✓ Is there anything that has made your life easier, but you feel uncomfortable about it? An SUV instead of a hybrid? Disposable plastic as opposed to a reusable container? Describe this innovation and explain how you justify the personal dilemma.