

Week 2

Technological Inventions

Adapted from <https://smallbusiness.chron.com/10-greatest-technological-inventions-40511.html#page1>

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|------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| * Tech-saturated | * Streaming service | * Smart phones | * Film-based cameras |
| * High-tech | * Untethered | * Dashboard displays | * Global Positioning System |

Since the age of modern man began roughly 200,000 years ago, the world has seen a progression of innovation and invention. From primitive developments such as the wheel and paper to today's 1. _____ gadgets that would blow the mind of any Neanderthal, there's certainly no shortage of impressive developments that have changed the way we live and work. In modern times, a handful of technological wonders that started out as novelties, have become indispensable to our daily routines.

CELLULAR PHONES



Communication has always been a key to success, from wars to relationships. The comparison between today's cell phones, which offer instantaneous and 2. _____ communication, to the old-fashioned paper-and-pen process is nothing short of incredible. And the Nielsen ratings service predicted that one out of every two Americans would own 3. _____ at the end of 2011, according to the website GigOm. So, it's not just calls these phones are good for; they offer a veritable banquet of computer access at your fingertips.

GPS



Thanks to the 4. _____, and its integration in just about everything tech-related, most of you will never get lost again. And we're not talking just about those 5. _____. The half of Americans carrying smart phones likely have GPS apps guiding the way. According to the British newspaper The Telegraph, GPS was originally developed in 1978 by the U.S. military.

PERSONAL COMPUTER



No list of the "greatest technologies ever invented" is complete unless it includes the personal computer. The magazine Popular Mechanics reports the first general purpose computer was a 30-ton behemoth invented in 1947. Though an incredible machine, it was far too large for any home. The invention of the personal computer, or PC, happened in the 1970s and revolutionized the entire world.

DIGITAL MUSIC



Music has graced the world with its presence for thousands of years, but digitizing music has improved sound quality and sharing ability. Now, we even have music online. For example, Spotify is a digital music, podcast, and video 6. _____ that gives you access to millions of songs and other content from artists all over the world.



Compared to inventions that have existed for hundreds of years, such as the microscope or telescope, the Internet is still in its infancy. Still, the Internet has arguably changed the world more than most other inventions. The Internet was invented in the late '60s and made available to the public in the '90s. Since then, it has improved both communication and information dissemination and changed daily life for virtually everyone on Earth.

REMOTE CONTROLS



Like the microwave, remote controls aren't necessary to humankind's survival. With that said, they're certainly convenient. Accordingly to Popular Mechanics, remote controls were invented in 1955. Though we take them for granted today, the way they wirelessly change the TV channel or run through your slideshows -- without making you move from your couch or podium -- is undeniably impressive.

DIGITAL CAMERAS



Digital cameras are beloved by many because they capture sentimental moments and personal adventures. They come in handy for recording such memories, but they also play a significant role in news dissemination and recording history in general. While 7. _____ paved the way for their digital descendants, today's high-tech cameras and integrated phones eliminate long processing times and allow us to share pictures instantly.

VIDEO CONFERENCING



The idea of video conferencing may not seem like a big deal in today's 8. _____ world but consider how science-fiction-like the idea was even 100 years ago. Today, talking face-to-face, without actually being face-to-face, is commonplace -- with just two or three clicks of the mouse, through the digital camera on your PC or smart phone, across the Internet.