Chapter 16: An Amazing Ancestor

Fill in the blanks

1. The typewriter is considered the ancestor of the _____.
2. The modern keyboard layout is called _____.
3. The QWERTY keyboard was designed to prevent _____ from colliding.
4. The letter 'E' was placed next to _____ in the QWERTY layout.
5. The first typewriter manufacturers were _____ and _____.
6. Early typewriter models appeared around the turn of the _____ century.
7. IBM introduced the electric typewriter in the _____.
8. Mark Twain wrote about his typewriter in a letter to his brother in _____.
9. Twain praised the typewriter for being faster than _____.
10. The typewriter didn't make _____ or scatter ink blots.
11. Electric typewriters were still not completely _____.
12. The sounds of typewriters were memorable by-products of the _____ age.
13. The typewriter age ended with the arrival of _____ computers.

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14. Digital keyboards record keystrokes as _____ and _____.
15. Modern keyboards save data on various types of _____.
16. Digital text can be easily _____ over great distances.
17. Even _____ phones now have digital keyboards.
18. The QWERTY layout was designed more than _____ years ago.
19. The keyboard layout was meant to help _____ typists.
20. Early users showed great _____ for typewriters.
21. The typewriter allowed users to _____ while working.
22. It could fit _____ words on a single page.
23. The machine helped save _____.
24. Despite technological changes, the ideal _____ for writing remains similar.
25. A good lamp and comfortable _____ are still important for writing.
26. The human challenge of _____ remains unchanged.
27. Without _____, there would be no typing technology.
28. The physical keyboard keys became _____ in computers.
29. The transition was from _____ to digital.

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30. The chapter calls the typewriter an _____ ancestor.

Multiple choice questions

1. What was the primary reason for developing the QWERTY keyboard layout?

(a) To prevent frequently used keys from jamming
(b) To slow down typing speed
(c) To make typing more difficult for beginners
(d) To create a standardized look for all keyboards

2. Which company was responsible for introducing the electric typewriter?

(a) Microsoft
(b) Apple
(c) IBM
(d) Remington

3. What significant advantage did Mark Twain highlight about typewriters in his 1875 letter?

(a) They were completely silent
(b) They printed faster than handwriting
(c) They required no maintenance
(d) They could correct mistakes automatically

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4. How did the transition from typewriters to computers change the nature of typing?

(a) Typing became much louder
(b) Keyboards became heavier
(c) Fewer keys were needed
(d) Physical keystrokes became digital data

5. Why has the QWERTY layout remained standard despite technological changes?

(a) It's patented and can't be changed
(b) People are resistant to learning new layouts
(c) It was the first successful layout that became entrenched
(d) It's the most ergonomic design possible

6. What was one of the main limitations of electric typewriters mentioned in the chapter?

(a) They were still not completely silent
(b) They required constant maintenance
(c) They couldn't save documents
(d) They were much slower than manual ones

7. What fundamental human challenge remains unchanged despite writing technology advances?

(a) The need for perfect spelling
(b) Remembering keyboard layouts

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(c) Writing quickly enough

(d) Putting thoughts into words

8. What crucial development made electric typewriters practical in the 1930s?

(a) The invention of correction tape

(b) Widespread availability of electricity

(c) Cheaper production costs

(d) Better keyboard materials

9. What does the chapter suggest is equally important for both typewriter and computer use?

(a) A specific brand of keyboard

(b) Special typing training

(c) Expensive equipment

(d) A well-lit, comfortable workspace

10. What fundamental skill does the chapter emphasize as essential for all typing technology?

(a) Programming ability

(b) Literacy

(c) Fast typing speed

(d) Technical knowledge

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