

DISCOVERIES AND INVENTIONS

The wheel



The first wheels were not used for transportation. Because the wheel was invented before records were kept, nobody can ever know who invented the wheel, or even which tribe had the idea. However, the ancient Mesopotamian people are widely believed to have invented the wheel around

4200–4000 BC. It is likely to have also been invented, independently in China, around 2800 BC.

The Egyptians and the Mesopotamians used them to build their pyramids and roll their heavy equipment, and the Polynesians to move the stone moai statues on Easter Island.

While the basic function of the wheel is unchanged, modern wheels are much different from the simple wooden wheels of the past. Innovations in materials science have made possible all kinds of tires for bicycles, cars, motorcycles, and trucks—including tires designed for rough terrain, ice, and snow.

The printing press



A printing press is a mechanical device for applying pressure to an inked surface resting upon a print medium (such as paper or cloth), thereby transferring the ink. It marked a dramatic improvement on earlier printing methods in which the cloth, paper or other medium was brushed or rubbed repeatedly to achieve the transfer of ink, and accelerated the process. Typically used for texts, the invention and global spread of the printing press was one of the most influential events in the second millennium.

The German Johannes Gutenberg invented the printing press around 1440. Key to its development was the hand mold, a new molding technique that enabled the rapid creation of large quantities of metal movable type.

It was an enormous improvement on previous methodologies, like transcribing by hand using a 'pen' and ink or brushing and rubbing repeatedly to achieve ink transfer.

They have historically been used primarily for texts, but not exclusively, and its invention revolutionized bookmaking and distribution around the world. As the prices of book production fell, less wealthy members of society could suddenly gain access to this exclusive and rare luxury item.

Before his invention books were transcribed by hand or 'printed' using wooden blocks. Both were a painstakingly slow and laborious process that effectively meant access to the printed word was limited to those who could afford their high price tags.

THE INTERNET



The history of the Internet has its origin in the efforts to build and interconnect computer networks that arose from research and development in the United States and involved international collaboration, particularly with researchers in the United Kingdom and France.

Computer science was an emerging discipline in the late 1950s that began to consider time-sharing between computer users, and later, the possibility of achieving this over wide area networks. Independently, Paul Baran proposed a distributed network based on

data in message blocks in the early 1960s and Donald Davies conceived of packet switching in 1965 at the National Physical Laboratory (NPL) and proposed building a national commercial data network in the UK.

January 1, 1983 is considered the official birthday of the Internet. Prior to this, the various computer networks did not have a standard way to communicate with each other. A new communications protocol was established called Transfer Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP). This allowed different kinds of computers on different networks to "talk" to each other. ARPANET and the Defense Data Network officially changed to the TCP/IP standard on January 1, 1983, hence the birth of the Internet. All networks could now be connected by a universal language.

1. Which invention was made first?
A. The wheel B. The printing press C. The internet
2. Before his invention books were transcribed by hand or 'printed' using wooden blocks.
A. The wheel B. The printing press C. The internet
3. It was invented by The German Johannes Gutenberg
A. The wheel B. The printing press C. The internet
4. Nobody can ever know who invented it
A. The wheel B. The printing press C. The internet
5. It was invented before 4200–4000 BC
A. The wheel B. The printing press C. The internet
6. The Egyptians and the Mesopotamians used them to build their pyramids and roll their heavy equipment
A. The wheel B. The printing press C. The internet
7. It has its origin in the efforts to build and interconnect computer networks
A. The wheel B. The printing press C. The internet
8. Which invention is more modern?
A. The wheel B. The printing press C. The internet

9. It is a mechanical device
 - A. The wheel
 - B. The printing press
 - C. The internet
10. Which is made of different materials
 - A. The wheel
 - B. The printing press
 - C. The internet