








# INVENTIONS

An invention is a machine, tool or system someone has made, designed or thought of for the first time. Usually, an invention is created because of a need.

## WHAT ARE THE EARLIEST INVENTIONS?

Many historians consider the wheel, the spear, the knife, and the arrow as the earliest inventions. They were created because of the need to hunt, provide protection and transportation. The earliest inventions were made out of what was available to the people. Wood was used for spears shafts. Rocks were used for the blade of a spear or a knife. Bones were used for needles.

## TIMELINE OF SOME IMPORTANT INVENTIONS







				
<b>1829</b> Louis Braille invented the braille alphabet system which allowed blind people to read	<b>1876</b> Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone with the help of Thomas Watson	<b>1879</b> Thomas Edison invented the light bulb	<b>1983</b> Motorola invented the first mobile phone	<b>1989</b> Tim Berners Lee invented the World Wide Web with the first successful internet connection

## THE INVENTION OF THE TELEPHONE



Alexander Graham Bell spent years trying to invent a way to make the human voice move through electrical wires. In 1874, he began working with Thomas Watson, a skilled electrician. Together, they continued experimenting on ways to transmit speech. On 10<sup>th</sup> March 1876, Alexander Graham Bell made his first telephone call to Thomas Watson using an early version of a microphone.

## THE EVOLUTION OF THE TELEPHONE

					
Bell's invention transformed the sound into an electrical code which was sent down a copper wire to a speaker.	Users of a candlestick telephone had to ask an operator to be connected to the person they wanted to talk to.	The user of a rotary telephone could input a telephone number by rotating the dial.	Telephones began using buttons which was a much quicker way to dial a number.	Mobile telephones became very popular as people could be reached anywhere. Early mobile phones did not connect to the internet.	Smart phones were invented and they could use apps to do lots of things including emails, taking photos and surfing the web.

## THOMAS EDISON THE INVENTOR



Thomas Edison was a famous American inventor. He is best known for inventing 'domestic' lightbulbs to go in houses, and the electric power system that allows them to work.

He came up with over 1000 successful inventions in his lifetime. Edison acquired 1093 patents (something that gives someone the ownership of an invention so that no one else can make it and sell it) for his inventions which is the record number of patents that one person has ever had.



Edison's best-known inventions are the electric light system, the phonograph (a machine that records and replays sound) and motion pictures (movies).

Edison lost most of his hearing when he was 12 years old. He wasn't completely deaf but said that he liked being able to not hear as it meant he could concentrate on his experiments and inventions.

## FIND OUT MORE:

Louis Braille

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o9BOQ6lpTSE>

Alexander Graham Bell

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/true-stories-alexander-graham-bell/zf7gd6f>

Thomas Edison

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b1IKwZTtzlY>

The history of the telephone

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j3RbnsHTuVw>

## EXAMPLE QUESTIONS

1. How did the telephone work?
2. How have telephones evolved?
3. Who invented the telephone?
4. What was the braille alphabet?
5. What is the world wide web commonly called?
6. Why is an invention created?
7. Which company invented the first mobile phone?
8. What else has Edison invented?