INVENTORS & INVENTIONS

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INVENTORS STUDY GUIDE

An invention is a new thing that someone has made. The computer was an invention when it was first made. We say when it was "invented".

New things that are made or created are called inventions. Cars and plastics are inventions that everyone knows. Inventions are made by inventors. See the fact file below for more information about inventors and inventions.

- An invention is defined as a device, method or process developed from study and experimentation.
- When a invention is created it can be protected by a patent. A patent is a set of exclusive rights granted by a state or national government given to an inventor for a limited period of time in exchange for a public disclosure of an invention.
- Sometimes a device is invented before there is a need. For example, the can opener was invented 48 years after cans were introduced, and traffic lights were used before the advent of the motorcar.
- Most of the time an invention is created because of a need. For example, before the invention of the thermometer, the brewers of beer used to check the temperature by dipping their thumb into the mixture to find whether the
temperature was appropriate for adding yeast. If it was too hot, the yeast would die. This is where we get the phrase "The Rule of the Thumb".

- 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.
- Some of the most important inventions are considered to be the cotton gin, the automobile, the telephone, the electric light, the printing press, the steam engine, the camera, the computer, the sewing machine and the television.
- Some of the most famous inventors are: Archimedes, Albert Einstein, Leonardo Da Vinci, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Edison, Johannes Gutenberg, Alexander Graham Bell, George Washington Carver, Eli Whitney, the Wright Brothers, John Baird,
- Henry Ford, George Eastman, and Heinrich Hertz.
- There are also many women inventors, however they are not as famous as their male counterparts. Where would the world be if Mary Anderson had not invented the windshield wiper for the automobile, or Margaret Knight who invented a machine that created flat-bottom paper bags?
- Probably one of the most famous inventors we all take for granted is Levi Strauss. Mr. Strauss invented blue jeans.
INVENTORS & INVENTIONS
FILL IN THE BLANKS WORKSHEET

Using the study guide provided. Can you fill in the missing words for the questions below?

1: An invention is a new thing that someone has ____.  
2: When an invention is created it can be ________ by a patent.  
3: Many historians consider the _____, the spear, the knife, and the arrow as the earliest inventions.  
4: The ________ is considered to be one of the most important inventions.  
5: The ________ is seen as one of the most important inventions in modern history as most jobs now involve using one.  
6: One of the most important Automobile inventors was Henry ____.  
7: Mary Anderson was one of the most famous female inventors with her invention the windshield ____.  
8: Probably one of the most famous inventor we all take for granted is Levi Strauss. Mr. Strauss invented blue ____.  

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INVENTOR & INVENTIONS
FILL IN THE BLANKS ANSWERS

1: Made
2: Protected
3: Wheel
4: Automobile
5: Computer
6: Ford
7: Wiper
8: Jeans
INVENTIONS

WORDSEARCH

1: EINSTEIN  2: FORD  3: PATENT  4: EDISON  
5: TELEPHONE  6: AUTOMOBILE  7: ANDERSON  
8: INVENTION  9: INVENTOR  10: COMPUTER
INVENTIONS CROSSWORD

ACROSS:

2) Creator of the windshield wiper.
4) Most work is completed using one of these.

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5) Invented so we can speak with people. We now have mobile versions of these.
8) Famous physicist. First name Albert.
10) Someone who created something new.

DOWN:

1) New thing that someone has made
3) One of the most famous inventions which gets us places.
6) He invented the lightbulb. First name Thomas.
7) A set of exclusive rights.
9) Famous Automobile creator. First name Henry.
ACROSS:

2) Creator of the windshield wiper. [ANDERSON]
4) Most work is completed using one of these. [COMPUTER]
5) Invented so we can speak with people. We now have mobile versions of these. [TELEPHONE]
8) Famous physicist. First name Albert. [EINSTEIN]
10) Someone who created something new. [INVENTOR]

DOWN:

1) New thing that someone has made [INVENTION]
3) One of the most famous inventions which gets us places. [AUTOMOBILE]
6) He invented the lightbulb. First name Thomas. [EDISON]
7) A set of exclusive rights. [PATENT]
9) Famous Automobile creator. First name Henry. [FORD]