



KS3 History Inventions



Learning Objective: What has been the most significant invention in history?

Development of ideas has been happening for millennia, from the **Homo habilis**, an early human who evolved around 2.3 million years ago, who was probably the first to make stone tools, to Sir Timothy Berners-Lee who invented the World Wide Web (Internet) in 1989. But which of the inventions throughout time has been the most significant?

What do you mean by 'significance'?

Significance can be broken down into five different areas:

1. Importance – how important was it to the people living at the time?
2. Profundity – how deeply people's lives have been affected by the development
3. Quantity – how many lives were affected?
4. Durability – for how long people's lives have been affected
5. Relevance – the extent to which the development is relevant to your own lives

Tasks: Read the 'invention cards' on the separate document and then:

1. Place them in *chronological (time) order* from earliest to latest.
2. Look up any inventions you haven't heard of and find out what they were used for and how they affected people's lives.
3. Choose one or more of the inventions and create a web page for children explaining it. A template and frame for how to complete it are in separate documents.
4. **Assess** the inventions **in terms of their significance** and order them from most to least significant.
5. Write a short paragraph about *why* you have placed them in that order.
6. Choose the **most significant invention** from the list and write a paragraph about why you feel it should be considered the most significant (use the 5 points above to help you).
7. Are there any inventions you would add to the list? What are they and why have you added them?