

KEY HISTORICAL INVENTIONS

A Chronological Reference Chart

c. 3500 BCE

The Wheel

Mesopotamia. Revolutionized transportation and mechanical applications.

c. 1440

Printing Press

Johannes Gutenberg. Enabled the mass production of books and the rapid spread of knowledge.

1769

Steam Engine

James Watt (Improved). The catalyst for the Industrial Revolution.

1876

Telephone

Alexander Graham Bell. Transformed global communication by transmitting vocal sounds telegraphically.

1879

Incandescent Light Bulb

Thomas Edison. Extended the productive workday and transformed urban infrastructure.

1903

The Airplane

Orville and Wilbur Wright. Achieved the first controlled, sustained flight of a powered aircraft.

1928

Penicillin

Alexander Fleming. The beginning of the era of antibiotics, drastically reducing infectious disease mortality.

1989

World Wide Web

Tim Berners-Lee. Created a global information medium through the internet.