

≡ CHAPTER 5 ≡

INVENTORS AND THEIR INVENTIONS

There was a lot of noise coming from Orak's **science lab**. The door was closed. He was up to something.

"Umm ... knock knock ... Hello! Orak, are you okay?" asked Verum, slowly opening the door.

FIRE IN THE HOLE! FIREEE!

Just as Verum opened the door, she heard Orak yell. A fireball shot past Verum's hair. Orak was standing in front of her with a **laser** and some **big machine**.

Oh, my hair! That was close. What are you doing, Orak?

I am so sorry. I am trying to build a new **flying machine** that can also go **underwater**. Like a **submarine**! But I am stuck.

"Did you know that humans have been inventing really cool things for many, many years? They don't give up. Let me tell you about **five inventions** that changed the world," said Verum.



TELEVISION

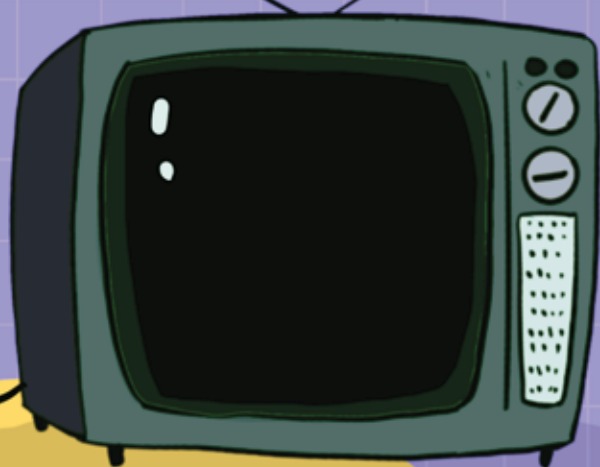
Year of invention:
1926



Name of inventor:
John Logie Baird



He was from:
Scotland



John Logie Baird was an inventor. He loved making things. He had the bright idea of making a device through which people could see **moving pictures**.

He made this device using things he could find around his home. Like **cardboard boxes** and **cookie tins**!

After he made the **world's first TV**, he invited a few people to see his invention.



This group of excited people was the first one to watch the **world's first television**.

"Shhhhh, quiet ...! It's **beginning**," whispered someone in the audience.

And it worked! But the images were not very clear.

A few years later, a **Russian inventor** named **Vladimir Zworykin** made another television. It was better than **John Baird's TV**.

COMPUTER

Year of invention:
1822



Name of inventor:
Charles Babbage



He was from:
England



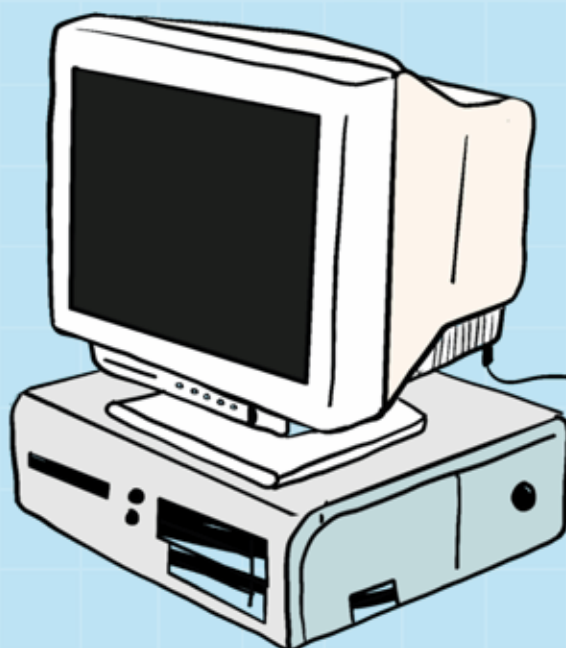
Most inventors come up with fun inventions that solve the problems they have.

Charles Babbage was a **mathematician**. His job was to solve really difficult math problems.



He had an idea!

What if there was a machine that could do **complex calculations**?



He used to spend most of his time on these calculations. But if a machine could do that for him, his time would be free. He could then do other important work.

So, he designed the **world's first computer**. He called it an '**engine**'. But Babbage never built a computer.

Many years later, different countries began fighting each other. This period is called **World War**. During this time, Babbage's computer design was built into a **working computer**. But it was kept a secret!

BICYCLE

Year of invention:
1817



Name of inventor:
Karl Drais



He was from:
Germany



Germany is a beautiful country.

Karl Freiherr von Drais

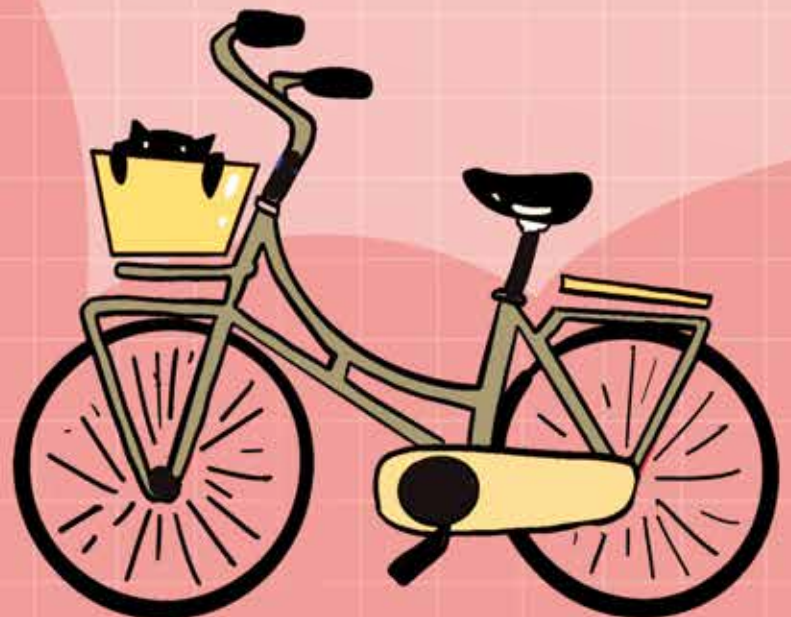
wondered how amazing it would be if he could move around fast, looking at plants, trees, and the people passing by. Also, there must be a faster way to get from one place to another than walking.

So, he invented the **bicycle**. His invention was made out of **wood** and had **no pedals!** It had **wheels**. People had to push the bicycle with their **feet**. The wheels made them move faster than walking.

Around **50 years**

after Drais' cycle, pedals were added. The cycle with pedals was called '**boneshakers**'.

This is because these cycles would get into **every bump and hole** in the roads!



PENCIL

Year of invention:
1795



Name of inventor:
Nicolas-Jacques Conte



He was from:
France



The pencil that we use today was invented by **Nicolas-Jacques Conte**. He was a **French scientist**.

Around **5,000 years ago**, people did not have any tool with which they could write or draw. They did not even have **paper or pencil**.



So, they made a sharp tool called **stylus** from plants. They cut the stem and sharpened it. But there was **no ink**.

Instead of paper they used **wet clay**. Just like the clay we use to mould fun things. They would put this sharp stylus on wet clay and draw. After it dried, their drawings were recorded forever.

About **1,500 years ago**, after **ink** was invented, people stopped using the stylus. Instead, they used a **bird's feather tip**! They would dip it into the ink and write.

Conte wanted a way to write his thoughts without having to dip the feather into the ink again and again. So, he invented the **pencil** that we use today.



TELEPHONE

Year of invention:
1876



Name of inventor:
Alexander Graham Bell



He was from:
Scotland



When **Alexander Graham Bell** wanted to send messages to someone far away, he had to use a device called **telegraph**.

The telegraph would send **coded messages** as **electric signals**.

Bell had an idea. He wondered how amazing it would be if someone could just say '**I want pizza**' instead of sending a coded message to say the same thing.

He wanted to **add voice** to the telegraph.



TRING
TRING!

So, he created the **telephone**. After building the device, he made his first call to his assistant, **Watson**. He said,

Mr. Watson, come
here. I want to
see you.

The **first mobile** was
invented only in **1984**.





You told me about inventions from England, Scotland, Germany, and France. Are there any inventions from India?

BUTTON

So many! Let me tell you about a few of them.



Year of invention:
5,000 years ago



Location:
**Indus Valley Civilisation,
Ancient India**



Buttons are often overlooked as they are small and tiny. But buttons are an important part of our lives today. They are used to fasten our clothes together. Without buttons, we won't be able to wear shirts, trousers, etc.



Ancient Indians of the **Indus Valley Civilisation** wanted to make their clothes look pretty. So, they made buttons out of **shells** and stuck them on their clothes. These buttons had **carvings** on them. Buttons made of gold were worn by rich people to signify their **wealthy status**.

This fashion spread all over the world. Centuries passed and buttons grew to have a daily use.

IVORY RULERS

Year of invention:
4,400 years ago



Location:
**Indus Valley Civilisation,
Ancient India**



Many years ago, humans used their hands and feet to measure things. But they faced a problem. Everyone's hands and feet were of different sizes. How then, would the measurements be correct? That's when they invented **rulers!**

Around **4,400 years ago**, ancient Indians invented a **ruler made of ivory**. Ivory is a hard and white substance that forms the **tusks and teeth of animals**. This ruler was marked to about $\frac{1}{16}$ inch (1.6 mm). And it was very accurate! It helped ancient Indians build homes, drainage systems, and other structures.

As years passed, rulers made of wood, steel, and plastic were invented.

SHAMPOO

Year of invention:
1762



Location:
India



Humans use **shampoo** to wash their hair and keep it clean. The practice of shampooing emerged in India thousands of years ago. Since ancient times, Indians have used **herbs** to clean their hair. The first shampoos were made by **boiling soapberries** and **Indian gooseberries!**

The word 'shampoo' entered the English language in the year **1762**. It came from the Hindi word "**champo**" and Sanskrit word "**chapayati**". Both the words mean "to knead or massage".



This practice of shampooing also reached **Great Britain!** All thanks to an Indian businessman named **Sake Dean Mahomed**.

In the early **1800s**, **Mahomed** moved to Great Britain. He started shampoo baths in the kingdom. They became very popular. Soon, he was appointed as the **Shampooing Surgeon of King George IV** and **King William IV!**

And that's how the practice of shampooing hair became popular all over the world!



FIND THE HIDDEN INVENTOR!

1. NHJO OLIGE DRBIA



Hint: This inventor made the world's first TV using cardboard boxes and cookie tins!

2. SLRECHA EGBBBA



Hint: This inventor wanted to solve difficult math problems. So, he designed the world's first computer.

3. ARKL AIDRS



Hint: This inventor was tired of walking. So, he made a bicycle out of wood.

4. LASOCIN QACJEUS ENT CO



Hint: This French inventor invented a pencil to write down his thoughts.

5. XDERANALE RAHGAM LEBL



Hint: This inventor added voice to the telegraph and invented the telephone.



1. The world's first bicycle was made out of _____.

Wood

Metal

Plastic

2. John Logie Baird invented the _____.

3. Charles Babbage designed the world's first computer.

True

False

4. _____ invented the pencil that we use today.

5. Alexander Graham Bell was from _____.

Scotland

England

Ireland

6. Ancient Indians invented rulers made of ivory.

True

False

ANSWER IN BRIEF

1. Write a few sentences about the origin of shampoo.
2. Explain how people wrote before the invention of the pencil.
3. Which invention fascinates you? Write four to five sentences about it.

WHAT WOULD YOUR INVENTION BE?



Almost all inventions come from simple ideas to make our lives better. Think about what you do daily, from waking up in the morning to going to bed at night. Now, think about what could make your day better or easier. There's your invention! Use this space to document your invention ideas.

A large white rectangular area for writing, framed by a blue border. On the right side, there is a yellow scroll-like edge that curves upwards at the bottom. The area is intended for documenting invention ideas.