

THEME 4 TRADITIONS READING SKILL (SPICE UP)

A. Read the timeline and write the correct title for each period.

INFORMATION AGE / INVENTION OF THE PRINTING PRESS / RENAISSANCE / INVENTION OF PAPER / TELECOMMUNICATION ERA / INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

- 1. 105 AD** _____ : In ancient times, people used to write on papyrus and clay tablets. The Chinese invented an easy way to make paper. With this new method, the information became transferrable.
- 2. 1440** _____ : People used to write books by hand in ink until Gutenberg invented the printing press. This invention enabled the mass production of books. As a result, information became more accessible in Europe and shaped the Renaissance.
- 3. 14th - 17th century** _____ : Before the rebirth of the Europeans, people used to be under the control of the Middle Age powers. Then, they started to question their world with the help of the developments, the artworks and the books of the era. The rise of critical thinking ended the Middle Ages and started the Modern Era by changing people's lives completely.
- 4. 18th century** _____ : The industrial development of Great Britain spread over many countries very quickly. Before that, people used to make goods by hand at home. The new technologies helped people produce larger numbers of products by machines in factories. The workers and their families moved to the cities and started to live totally different lives.
- 5. 1800s** _____ : It used to take 75 days to receive a letter before the invention of the telegraph. Then, the telephone reshaped the long-distance communication. Entering each and every house, the radio became the new kind of mass media.
- 6. 1900s - Now** _____ : Information began to circulate faster after the second half of the 20th century. The invention of television started the era of audio-visual communication technology. The first computers used to weigh 5 tons, but today, we have very light, high-tech PCs and mobile phones that are always connected to the Internet. Additionally, with the development of 5G, wireless services have become much faster and more accessible.

B. Read the timeline again and choose the correct option.

1. People could transfer information easier _____.
a) with papyrus and clay tablets b) with the invention of paper
2. The invention of the printing press played an important role in _____.
a) shaping the rebirth of the Europeans b) the invention of paper making process
3. During the Renaissance period, _____.
a) people never questioned anything b) critical thinking became important
4. The Industrial Revolution enabled the production in large numbers _____.
a) by machines b) by hand
5. The new kind of mass media in the 1800s was _____.
a) the telegraph b) the radio
6. When scientists first invented the computers, _____.
a) people could carry them everywhere b) they were too big and heavy

C. Ask and answer the questions below.

1. What is the relation between the invention of the printing press and educational life?
2. How did the Renaissance change social life?

3. How did the Industrial Revolution change social life?
4. How did the technological developments of the Telecommunication Era change daily life?
5. How did the technological developments of the Information Age change daily life?

D. Read the anecdote and write a suitable title for it.

It was the late 1990s, and I was doing online research for a project in the computer lab at my college. This cute incidence actually happened because few people knew how to use the Internet efficiently. That day, a classmate came in and sat in front of the next computer, holding a bunch of books. He said he spent more than five hours in the library looking for information for his research and had to type everything. I was shocked! After that, I asked him what his research was about, and I searched for it on the Net. Then... Bam! It took less than 10 seconds to display all of the information on the screen. "Have you been looking for this for more than five hours?", I asked. What he told me after his initial surprise was even funnier: "So, all I have to do now is to write down everything!" "Please don't write it down, just print it out!", I said.

E. Read the anecdote again and answer the questions.

1. Why was the narrator at the computer lab?
2. Did people use to use the Internet efficiently and easily in the late 1990s?
3. Why was the narrator surprised when she started talking to her classmate?
4. How did she find the information about her classmate's research?

F. Look at the statements about the story and write (T) true or (F) false.

1. The narrator's classmate came to the computer lab with a lot of books he borrowed.
2. The narrator was unsurprised to learn that her friend spent a lot of time at the library.
3. The narrator taught her classmate how to do online research.
4. The narrator's friend wanted to print out everything on the screen.