



Communication Then and Now

by Robin Nelson



Comprehension Coach

Communication is sharing ideas and **news**.
Most people **communicate** by talking and writing.
People can use their bodies to communicate, too.



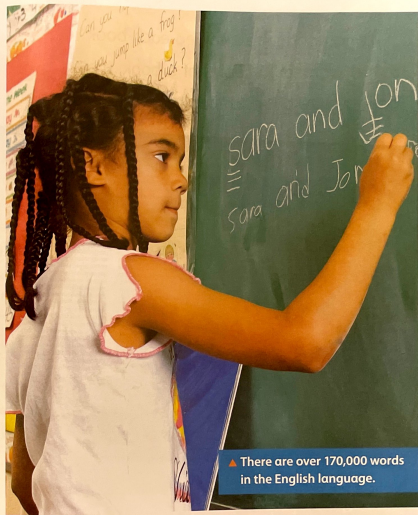
Communication has changed. People
now communicate better and faster.



Long ago, people made pictures to tell stories. The pictures could be drawings or symbols.



▲ This painting was discovered in a cave in France.



▲ There are over 170,000 words in the English language.

Now, people use words more often to tell stories.

Long ago, people copied each book.
If they wanted 10 copies of a book, they
had to write out each copy one at a time.



▲ This book was written with a feather pen and bottles of ink in 1453.



feather pen

ink

Printing presses copy millions of
pages each day. ♥



e-book

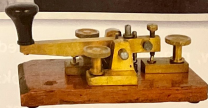


Now, machines make printed
books or e-books. Printed books
are made with printing presses. People
read e-books on **computers**.

Long ago, people tapped **messages** on telegraph machines. Telegraph machines sent messages using electricity. It took about a minute to send each word.



The electric telegraph was invented in 1837. ▶



▶ The telephone was invented in 1876 by Alexander Graham Bell.



Now, people call each other on telephones. Most people have mobile phones. Long ago, telephones always needed cords.

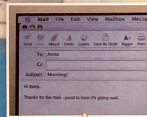
Long ago, people wrote letters. It could take months to mail a letter. Mail went on ships and by horses. Today, mail delivery is done by trucks and planes so letters are delivered much quicker.



▲ People wrote letters using pens and paper.



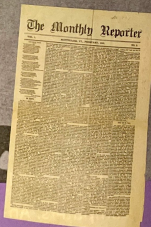
Now, people write e-mails on computers. An e-mail message can be delivered in just seconds. Today, many people write e-mail messages instead of hand-written letters.



e-mail message



Newspapers were sold on street corners. This newspaper was sold in New York in 1896. ▶



Long ago, hundreds of people read newspapers. The first United States daily newspaper was published in 1784. People had to buy a newspaper to read it.



▶ Many people get newspapers delivered to them at home.

Now, millions of people read newspapers. People can buy printed newspapers.

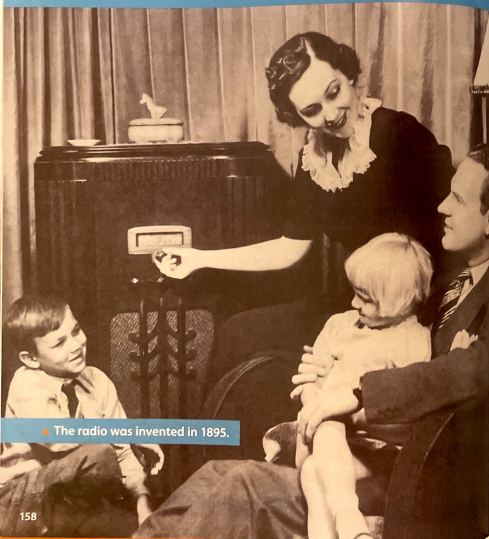
People can also read newspapers on the **Internet**. People all over the world can read news on the Internet.



Internet news

laptop computer

Long ago, people could only listen to news on radios. Radios only make sounds. They do not have pictures.



▲ The radio was invented in 1895.

Now, people can watch news on televisions.

Communication will continue to change. What do you think will happen next? ♦



Communication Timeline



years 1750 1784 1800 1837 1876 1895

inventions ▼ first U.S. newspaper ▲ electric telegraph ▼ telephone ▲ radio



1900 1927 1943 1972 1985 2000

▲ television ▼ computer ▲ e-mail ▼ first cell phones used

