

# The History of Printing

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## Summary

This book is about how printing has developed over the years.

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# Before Reading

## Think Ahead

Look at the picture and answer the questions.



1. What is a round shape with straight sides? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What is another word for a design using shapes or colors? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What is a hole in a mountain called? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What is a mark left by a hand? \_\_\_\_\_

# Vocabulary

## A Read and match.

1.



•

• a. liquid

2.



•

• b. stamp

3.



•

• c. storyteller

4.



•

• d. metal

5.



•

• e. steam

6.



•

• f. newspaper

7.



•

• g. photocopier

8.



•

• h. laser

**B Write the word for each definition.**

base

mass-produce

adventure

plastic

tool

1. \_\_\_\_\_ an exciting activity
2. \_\_\_\_\_ the main place where a person lives or works
3. \_\_\_\_\_ a light, strong, man-made material that can be made into different shapes
4. \_\_\_\_\_ something held in the hand that is used for a particular task
5. \_\_\_\_\_ to make a lot of goods cheaply using machines in a factory

**C Choose the word that means about the same as the underlined words.**

1. The problem with cave paintings as knowledge is that they are not able to be carried or put into another place.  
 a. handprints                      b. moveable                      c. liquid                      d. laser
2. Some bookstores can print books immediately when needed.  
 a. using metal                      b. on a cylinder                      c. in plastic                      d. on demand
3. You need to use a colored liquid to print letters when using a printing press.  
 a. ink                      b. a pattern                      c. steam                      d. a tool
4. Computer printers that formed letters from small dots were the first printers.  
 a. Newspapers                      b. Photocopiers                      c. Mimeographs                      d. Dot matrix printers

## Comprehension

### A Match the pictures with the correct sentences.

- a. Rolling printing presses use cylinders instead of flat blocks.
- b. People long ago drew pictures to record information.
- c. The first printing press used metal blocks for letters.



1. \_\_\_\_\_



2. \_\_\_\_\_



3. \_\_\_\_\_

### B Choose the best answer.

1. Why was the first printing press invented?
  - a. It was moveable.
  - b. It was faster than printing by hand.
  - c. It was smaller than a cave.
  - d. It was cheaper than using stamps.
2. Which of the following uses a laser?
  - a. A mimeograph
  - b. Stamp blocks
  - c. A printer
  - d. A steam-powered printing press
3. What might a rolling printing press make?
  - a. Patterns on clothes
  - b. Tools
  - c. Handprints on walls
  - d. Newspapers

**C** Choose the correct phrase for each picture. One (1) choice will not be used.

- a. The first computer printer that used many dots
- b. The first small machine that could print many copies for an office
- c. A printer that prints objects instead of ink on paper
- d. Sharing information through story telling
- e. Small blocks that were the beginning of modern printing



1. \_\_\_\_\_



2. \_\_\_\_\_



3. \_\_\_\_\_



4. \_\_\_\_\_

**D** Read each sentence. Write “T” if it is true or “F” if it is false.

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ Storytellers were important because they passed on knowledge.
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ People started recording things because it was a faster way to tell stories.
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ Stamps were used both for art and to write messages.
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_ The first step of using a printing press is to put paper on the blocks.
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_ Scientists use 3D printing to help their research in space.



**E Complete the sentences with the correct words.**

1. People want to pass on their \_\_\_\_\_ to their children.  
bases    knowledge
2. The first printing machine was made after moveable \_\_\_\_\_ blocks were developed.  
metal    plastic
3. Printing presses using \_\_\_\_\_ could produce newspapers in large amounts very quickly.  
liquid    steam
4. \_\_\_\_\_ in offices allow people to make many copies quickly.  
Photocopiers    Mimeographs
5. 3D printing technology lets us make things like \_\_\_\_\_ or even body parts.  
tools    adventures

**F Number the events in order from 1=first to 5=last.**

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Printing presses were powered by steam.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ Printers that make 3D objects were invented.
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ Offices started using mimeographs.
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ People used stamps to make copies of things.
- e. \_\_\_\_\_ Books were printed using big, wooden blocks.

## Think About It

**A** Look in the reader to write the answers to the following 5-W questions.

Who?	What?	When?	Where?	Why?
In early printing, the _____ used small, wooden blocks to copy their writing by using one block for each character.	_____ was able to be shared widely after the invention of printing made distributing information easier.	The first printing press was made by Johannes Gutenberg in about _____.	Printing today is used in offices, at home, and even in _____.	Because there is too much for us all to remember, people created ways to _____ information.

**B** Complete the sentences below with your own ideas.

From this book, I learned \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

Before I read this book, I knew \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

Now I also know \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.