

# The Invention of Paper

by Cecilia Na



Did you know that paper was first invented in China? Before paper was invented, people used to write on bones, turtle shells, and bamboo.

Paper was first invented in China around 100 B.C. People used a plant called hemp and silk to make paper. The paper made with these materials was not very good. It was also expensive.

Then around A.D. 105 a man in China named Cai Lun came up with a better and cheaper way to make paper. He is known as the inventor of the paper we use today.

Cai Lun used tree bark, hemp, silk, and fishing nets to invent this paper. This paper was easier and cheaper to make than the paper made back

then. His process also made it possible to make a lot of paper at once.

Cai Lun was an official who worked for the emperor of China. When he told the emperor about the new paper he had made, the emperor was very happy. People started using Cai Lun's papermaking process throughout China. Soon enough, his process started to spread to other countries around the world.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Where was paper first invented?

- A. China
- B. Japan
- C. Egypt

2. The text describes a sequence of a few important events in the history of making paper. What happened in 100 B.C.?

- A. Cai Lun came up with a better and cheaper way to make paper.
- B. Cai Lun's improved papermaking process spread throughout China.
- C. Paper was first invented in China.

3. Read the following sentences from the text:

Paper was first invented in China around 100 B.C. People used a plant called hemp and silk to make paper. The paper made with these materials was not very good. It was also expensive.

Then around A.D. 105 a man in China named Cai Lun came up with a better and cheaper way to make paper. He is known as the inventor of the paper we use today.

Cai Lun used tree bark, hemp, silk, and fishing nets to invent this paper. This paper was easier and cheaper to make than the paper made back then. His process also made it possible to make a lot of paper at once.

Based on this information, what can you conclude about the papermaking process Cai Lun invented?

- A. His papermaking process was worse than the papermaking process people used before it.
- B. His papermaking process was better than the papermaking process people used before it.
- C. His papermaking process was more expensive than the papermaking process people used before it.

4. When Cai Lun told the emperor about the new paper he had made, the emperor was very happy. Based on the text, why might the emperor have been very happy?

- A. He was pleased that Cai Lun was able to invent paper that was easier and cheaper to make.
- B. He was pleased that Cai Lun had used some of the same things people had been using to make paper, including hemp and silk.
- C. He was in a very good mood the day Cai Lun told him about the new paper he had made.

5. What is the main idea of this text?

- A. Paper was first invented in China around 100 B.C. People used a plant called hemp and silk to make paper. The paper made with these materials was not very good and it was also expensive.
- B. People started using Cai Lun's papermaking process throughout China. Soon enough, his process started to spread to other countries around the world.
- C. Cai Lun came up with a way to make paper that was better, easier, and cheaper than the process people had been using to make paper. He is known as the inventor of the paper we use today.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is a meaning of the word **material**?

- A. a learner at an educational institution
- B. a new invention or creation
- C. the substance that something is made of

2. What is another meaning of the word **material**?

- A. land smaller than a continent circled by water
- B. something needed for doing or making something
- C. something done to achieve a purpose

**Please use each answer choice only once. Choose the one word that best completes the sentence.**

3. The lion learned that it does not \_\_\_\_\_ how big or small your friends are.

- A. material
- B. matters
- C. materials
- D. matter
- E. mattered
- F. materialistic

4. All \_\_\_\_\_ interact with light in these ways.

- A. material
- B. matters
- C. materials
- D. matter
- E. mattered
- F. materialistic

5. Paper is a great \_\_\_\_\_ for making books.

- A. material
- B. matters
- C. materials
- D. matter
- E. mattered
- F. materialistic

6. It \_\_\_\_\_ how good a friend they are!

- A. material
- B. matters
- C. materials
- D. matter
- E. mattered
- F. materialistic

7. And back then, that's all that really \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. material
- B. matters
- C. materials
- D. matter
- E. mattered
- F. materialistic

8. Learning is not a \_\_\_\_\_ pleasure.

- A. material
- B. matters
- C. materials
- D. matter
- E. mattered
- F. materialistic

9. Please write your own sentence using the word **material**.

10. What would you like to remember about the meaning of the word **material** so that you can use it when you write or speak?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is a meaning of the word **process**?

- A. a particular point in time
- B. a way of doing something
- C. commodities offered for sale

2. What is another meaning of the word **process**?

- A. a writ issued by authority of law
- B. a division of something
- C. a sound produced from the mouth

**Please use each answer choice only once. Choose the one word that best completes the sentence.**

3. A life \_\_\_\_\_ is a function that a living thing performs to stay alive.

- A. processing
- B. processors
- C. process
- D. procession
- E. processed
- F. processor
- G. processes

4. All living things are made of cells and are able to carry out life \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. processing
- B. processors
- C. process
- D. procession
- E. processed
- F. processor
- G. processes

5. Now you can use your drawing or word \_\_\_\_\_ program to start a Leaf Collection Record Book.

- A. processing
- B. processors
- C. process
- D. procession
- E. processed
- F. processor
- G. processes

6. To view the photos, the film had to be \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. processing
- B. processors
- C. process
- D. procession
- E. processed
- F. processor
- G. processes

7. A long \_\_\_\_\_ of people, all dressed in black, followed the men.

- A. processing
- B. processors
- C. process
- D. procession
- E. processed
- F. processor
- G. processes



8. They have a \_\_\_\_\_ and memory, input, and output devices.

- A. processing
- B. processors
- C. process
- D. procession
- E. processed
- F. processor
- G. processes

9. These assumptions originate from the fundamental belief that humans are \_\_\_\_\_ of information.

- A. processing
- B. processors
- C. process
- D. procession
- E. processed
- F. processor
- G. processes

10. Please write your own sentence using the word **process**.

11. What would you like to remember about the meaning of the word **process** so that you can use it when you write or speak?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is a meaning of the word **invent**?

- A. create something fictional
- B. supply with water
- C. break and turn over earth especially with a plow

2. What is another meaning of the word **invent**?

- A. get from ancestors
- B. get by special effort
- C. make something new

**Please use each answer choice only once. Choose the one word that best completes the sentence.**

3. When a new product is \_\_\_\_\_, people need to give it a name, too.

- A. invention
- B. inventor
- C. invent
- D. invented
- E. inventors
- F. inventions

4. His \_\_\_\_\_ has helped save many lives.

- A. invention
- B. inventor
- C. invent
- D. invented
- E. inventors
- F. inventions

5. Like many \_\_\_\_\_, calculators keep getting better.

- A. invention
- B. inventor
- C. invent
- D. invented
- E. inventors
- F. inventions

6. You don't have to have white hair and wrinkles to be an \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. invention
- B. inventor
- C. invent
- D. invented
- E. inventors
- F. inventions

7. He likes to \_\_\_\_\_ new things.

- A. invention
- B. inventor
- C. invent
- D. invented
- E. inventors
- F. inventions

8. Scientists and \_\_\_\_\_ are often pathfinders.

- A. invention
- B. inventor
- C. invent
- D. invented
- E. inventors
- F. inventions

9. Please write your own sentence using the word **invent**.

10. What would you like to remember about the meaning of the word **invent** so that you can use it when you write or speak?