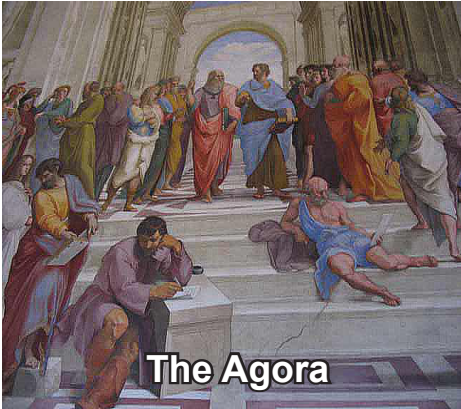
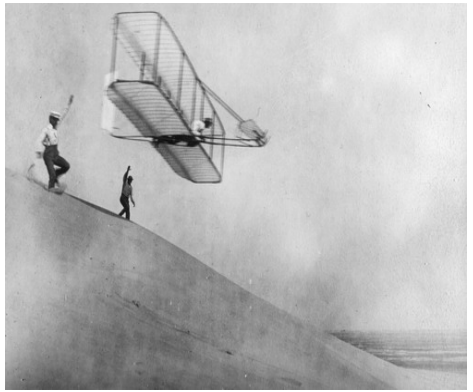


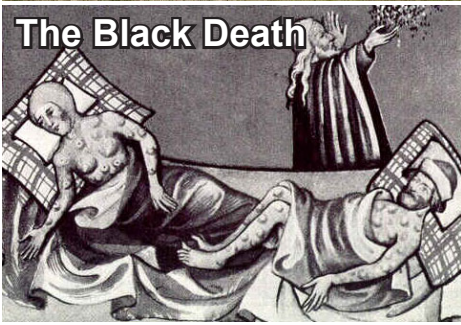
CHANGING HISTORY PAGE 1



Which events do you think have changed the history of man? Look at these pictures and discuss with your teacher which history changing events and inventions they depict and how they changed history.



*US Constitution – 1st Amendment
Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.*

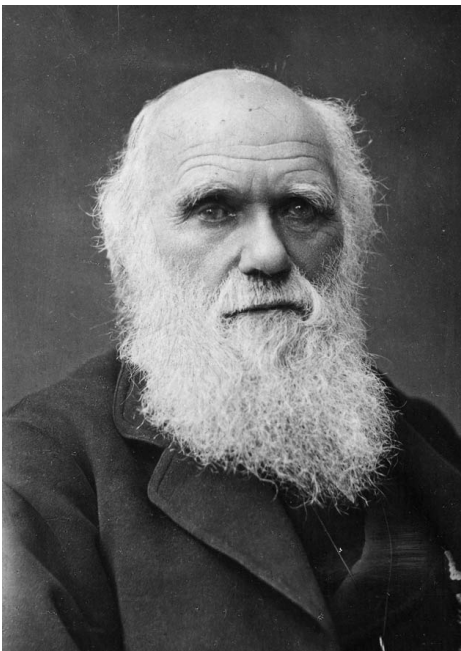


The Black Death



The Agora

American freedom includes a responsibility to protect US security - Leaking sensitive information erodes this freedom.



The Council of Nicea



Gregor Mendel

Now read the article and find out how the events have affected history.

Live Science
June 2009

10 Events That Changed History

Some events change the direction of mankind. Here are our top 10 history changing events.

The Invention of Gunpowder
Ironically, it was a quest for

immortality that led to the invention of the deadliest weapon before the arrival of the atomic bomb. Experimenting with life-lengthening elixirs around A.D. 850, Chinese



CHANGING HISTORY PAGE 2

alchemists instead discovered gunpowder. Their explosive invention would become the basis for almost every weapon used in war from that point on, from fiery arrows to rifles, cannons and grenades.

Daily Life in the Agora

It was the heart of the city - where ordinary citizens bought and sold goods, politics were discussed and ideas were passed among great minds like Aristotle and Plato. Who knows where we'd be without the "agoras" of ancient Greece. Lacking the concept of democracy, perhaps, or the formula for the length of the sides of a triangle.

The Council of Nicea

When Constantine became the first Christian leader of the Roman Empire in the fourth century, his vast territory was populated by a hodgepodge of beliefs and religions. To quell the controversy, in A.D. 325, he brought together 318 bishops from across the empire to the town of Nicea to find common ground on issues plaguing the new religion. It was the first ever worldwide gathering of the Church. The Christianity we know today is a result of what those men agreed upon.

The Black Death

By the time the tornado-like destruction of the 14th-century bubonic plague finally dissipated, nearly half the people in each of the regions it touched - and 75 million people total - had succumbed to a gruesome, painful death. The Black Death especially ravaged Europe, leading to immediate social changes, from increased wages to mistrust of the church.

Discovery of Sugar

It's unlikely that many candy lovers in the United States think about

history while each consumes an estimated 100 pounds of sugar per year, but the sweet stuff once played a major role in one of the sourest eras in modern times. White Gold, as British colonists called it, was the engine of the slave trade that brought millions of Africans to the Americas beginning in the early 16th century. Profit from the sugar trade was so significant that it may have even helped America achieve independence from Great Britain.

The Declaration of Independence

When he penned the Declaration in 1776, Thomas Jefferson had an inkling of the consequences it held for the 13 colonies, who were announcing their intention to break free from the shackles of British rule. What he may not have anticipated, however, were the widespread effects his powerful words would also have around the world. The Declaration of Independence didn't just change the course of American history, but created a ripple effect that nudged a host of other nations toward independence, making a revolutionary poster boy of Jefferson in the process.

A Monk and His Peas

Working in the solitude of an Austrian monastery, one 19th-century holy man managed to unravel the basic principles of heredity with just a handful of pea species that he bred and crossbred, counted and catalogued with monastic discipline. While plant and animal genes were Gregor Mendel's original focus, his ideas later made sense of our complex human workings, too, kicking off the scientific discipline of genetics.

A Trip to the Galapagos

Boobies and lava gulls and giant

tortoises, oh my! The Galapagos Islands host a faunal freak show of rare animal species endemic only to those volcanic specks isolated in the Pacific Ocean. While still very interesting to ecologists today, in the 19th century the life there proved key in Charles Darwin's seminal evolutionary theory of the origin of species. It was the fantastic menagerie of the Galapagos that ultimately lit the fire under the theory and its mechanism of natural selection, which changed biology forever.

12 Seconds in the Air

The pioneering, 120-foot flight over Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, may have gone off with little fanfare that day in 1903, but it would soon have enormous implications that wrapped, very literally, around the world. Brothers Orville and Wilbur Wright did not invent flight, but they became the Internet of their era with their invention of the first manned, powered, heavier-than-air and (to some degree) controlled-flight aircraft, bringing people and ideas together like never before.

Test-Tube Babies

Just over 30 years ago, a baby girl came screaming out of the womb much like any other. It was how she got in there in the first place that was far from average. As the first "test tube" baby born using in-vitro fertilization methods, England's Louise Brown tested the way we looked at life and science, sparking intense debates that continue to stir controversy. Though fertilization treatments existed before and have since become quite commonplace, that moment in 1978 marked a profound switch in biological medicine.

CHANGING HISTORY PAGE 3

Discussion Which of the ten events or inventions do you think changed history the most? Are there any events or inventions that you think should be added to the list?

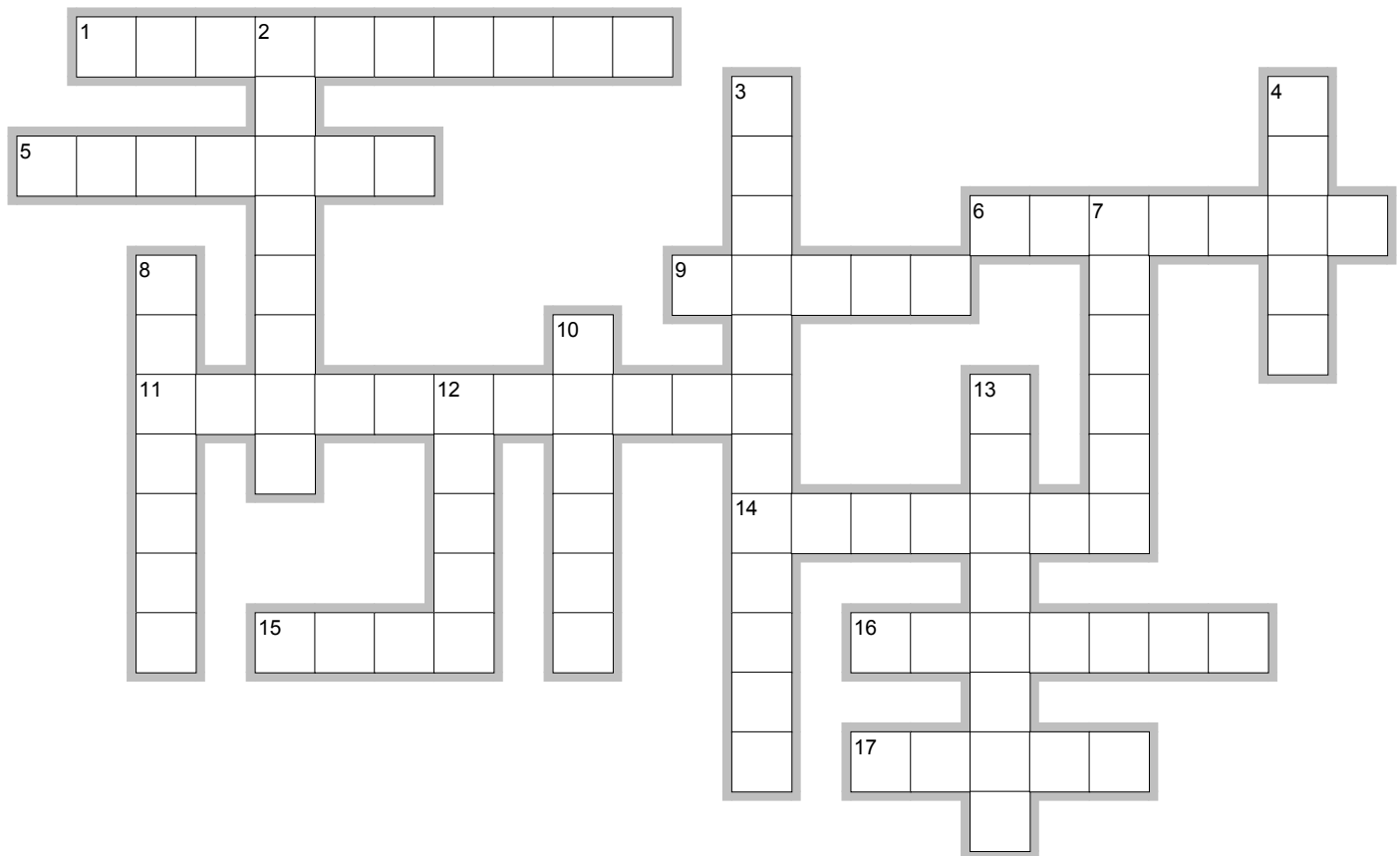
Vocabulary focus Complete the crossword with words from the article.

Across

- 1 a confused mixture
- 5 to fail to resist (illness, pressure, temptation, etc.)
- 6 to investigate and solve (a mystery or puzzle)
- 9 to ignite or stimulate (interest, activity, etc.)
- 11 not unusual; ordinary
- 14 an elaborate welcome or introduction
- 15 a person's or thing's function in a particular situation
- 16 a slight suspicion; a hint
- 17 a search or pursuit made in order to find or obtain something

Down

- 2 causing repulsion or horror
- 3 a series of consequences caused by a single action or event (2 words)
- 4 to put an end to
- 7 to cause extensive damage to; devastate
- 8 to start (phrasal verb)
- 10 to cause continual trouble or distress to
- 12 to give gentle encouragement to
- 13 restraints or impediments



Language focus Look at these extracts from the article:

'When he **penned** the Declaration in 1776, Thomas Jefferson had an inkling of the consequences it held for the 13 colonies, who were announcing their intention to break free from the shackles of British rule.'

'...but created a ripple effect that **nudged** a host of other nations toward independence, making a revolutionary poster boy of Jefferson in the process.'

CHANGING HISTORY PAGE 4

What do the highlighted words in the extracts have in common grammatically?

There is an increased usage of nouns as verbs. Which of these words can be used as both nouns and verbs?

drink	detail	compete	command
value	test	invent	ink
report	invest	import	staff
need	file	export	stock
play	exercise	notice	fax
paper	time	climb	reveal
house	record	bank	pencil
target	talk	chair	boss
table	seat	film	list

Which ones are pronounced differently in the noun and verb forms?

Practice Write some examples of the above words used as nouns and verbs.

Follow-up activity - Debate: Choose an event and argue for it being the most important event in the history of man.

CHANGING HISTORY PAGE 5

Teacher's notes

Total pages 5 / student pages 4 / week of 08.06.09 / mid-intermediate+ (B2+)

FYI Some other events that it could be argued changed the history of man:

capturing fire

the invention of the wheel

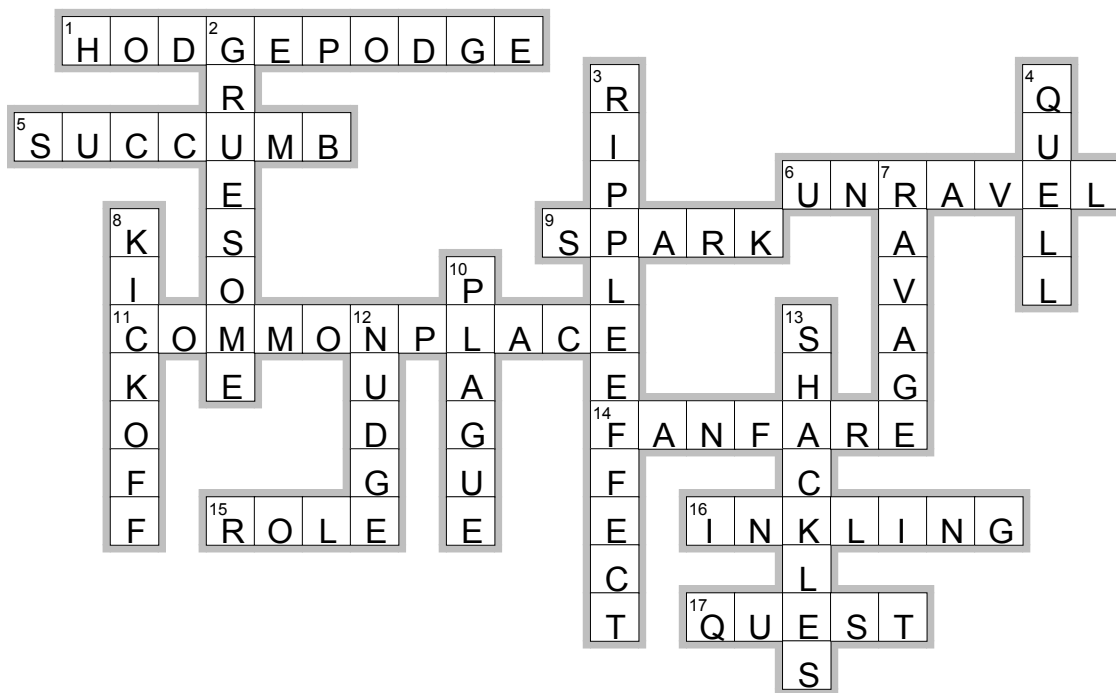
reading / writing

the printing press

domestication of animals

the introduction of money / legal tender

Vocabulary focus



Language focus

What do the highlighted words in the extracts have in common? = They can both be used as nouns and verbs.

The highlighted words below can not be used as nouns and verbs.

drink	detail	compete	command
value	test	invent	ink*
report	invest	import	staff
need	file	export	stock
play	exercise	notice	fax
paper	time	climb	reveal
house	record	bank	pencil*
target	talk	chair	boss
table	seat	film	list

*both **pencil** and **ink** are usually followed by 'in', pencil meaning to provisionally write in and ink to definitively write in. (e.g. we have pencilled in the 29th for our meeting, but there is a possibility that it will be changed.)

Point out the different pronunciation of **house**, **record**, **import** and **export** in the verb and noun forms.