

Inventions/Innovations

Grades: Post Secondary

Duration: 1 class period

Objective: Students will be assigned to research any invention and write a paper on it. The paper should be a minimum of 6 double spaced pages, 12pt. Times New Roman. The research paper should highlight why this item was invented and by whom. What problems did it solve? When was it invented? Is it still around today? Students will use Zazna to manage what articles they have used online. A reference page should be created from their Zazna account page.

Objectives	Given this assignment, students will be able to explain the history and origins of an invention and know how to effectively write a research paper.
Materials	For this assignment, students will need <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A computer with internet access• A Zazna account• A word processor
Procedures	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Talk to the students about some common inventions, such as the light bulb and bifocals.2. Give them some background about who created these things and why.3. Talk to students about the differences in invention and innovation.4. Relate the topic back to the ideas of engineering foundations and principles5. Mention the design process and how all inventions, in one way or another, undergo a design process6. Explain to them that they will need to research an invention.7. Assign students the research paper with a deadline of 2 weeks.
Assessment	Students will write a research paper. The research paper should address, at minimum, the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What invention did you choose?• Who invented it?• When?• Why did they invent this object?• What purpose does/did it serve?• How did they invent it?• Did they use any design processes?• How is this invention relevant to society today?
Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 20 points – Students answered all prompts• 10 points - Students were especially clear and explained more than what was asked

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10 points - the paper is free of major grammatical errors and adheres to the guidelines• 10 points – reference page with at least 5 references
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