

# The History Of Television



Who invented the TV?

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_ AC PATHWAY

Unlike many other inventions throughout history, the history of the TV credits many inventors instead of just one. In this case, there were many inventors working on the idea of watching pictures on a screen. Inventors from all over the world had been working on transmitting pictures or objects onto a screen since the 1830's, but the first physical television didn't evolve until the 1900's.

Five men became the most popular and prestigious inventors of what we know today as television, giving the history of TV a rich beginning.

A German inventor named Paul Nipkow invented the first rotating disk that would allow pictures to transmit over wire in 1884. His discovery was the first electromechanical television scanning system in the world. This rotating disk would rotate at a fast pace, while light passed through the holes to create a picture on a screen.

John Baird became famous in the history of TV when he invented the first pictures in motion that were televised in Europe in 1924. He later transmitted the human face onto a screen, and during World War II invented the first color picture tube.

While it would be some time before color TV became a staple in American and other households, his contribution to the history of TV was enormous.

Charles Jenkins invented a mechanical television that he called "radiovision," **which** was said to have transmitted one of the first moving images in 1923. This American inventor went on to promote his theories in the technology of the television along with other inventors when they transmitted the first live pictures onto a screen.

This pilgrim in the history of the TV is also famous for creating the first television station in North America. Vladimir Zworykin invented the Cathode Ray tube, which he named the Kinescope and started a new era in the history of TV.

Before the Kinescope, televisions in the 1920's were mechanical. The Cathode Ray tube was not only needed for transmission; **this** device transformed the television into an electronic device. Finally, an American farmer named Philo Farnsworth made a breakthrough in the history of TV at the age of 13, when he discovered a way to transmit images onto a screen by the use of 60 horizontal lines, which made the picture clearer. Farnsworth also invented over 165 devices, including the dissector tube, which became the groundwork for televisions we use today.



## First Commercial Televisions



People were very curious and excited about televisions coming to the public. However, some

feared the new technology, thinking that televisions could transmit personal conversations onto the TV. The 1928 Baird model mechanical television sets were introduced to the public at the “Olympia” Radio Exhibition in 1929.

These mechanical TV sets projected orange-red blurry images on a screen about the size of a dollar coin. The first televisions sold for about fifty-five dollars, which only people of wealth could afford. Electronic televisions were introduced to the United States at the 1939 World’s Fair. The first electronic television set was the 1938 DuMont Model 180 and cost around one hundred twenty-five dollars.

### Modern TV’s

The first milestone in making TV more modern was nothing to do with the TV itself, but in one of its accessories, the VCR. Now, people did not need to be actually watching **their** television sets when the program they wanted to see came on. They could setup a video cassette recorder to record the show for playback later when it was more convenient for them.



The VCR also became a standard for watching Hollywood movies at home. This was the first nail in the coffin of Hollywood’s power. Next came the DVD.

This was an optical media that had much higher resolution and a cleaner picture than VCR’s could attain due to its all digital nature. This milestone whet peoples appetites for increasing picture quality an eventually led to HDTV, one of the largest milestones since color television. This brought the number of lines of resolution up from 525 to 1080. The difference was night and day.

The replacement of DVD with Blu Ray was another milestone in the history of television. Now the Hollywood movies we brought home could be viewed in the modern 1080p format. The latest milestone for television is 3D.

This is agued to no end as to whether or not it really is a milestone or just a fad. Originally theaters used 3D to try to bring people out of their home theaters and back into the real theaters. It was no time, however, before 3D made the move to home theaters. Theater owners will have to come up with something new to drag people from their televisions again.

## COMPREHENSION EXERCISES

### 1. Say whether these statements are true or false according to the text.

- |  | T   | F   |
|--|-----|-----|
| a. Just one person invented the television                                 | ( ) | ( ) |
| b. The first television evolved in 1900                                    | ( ) | ( ) |
| c. Nipkow invented the first electromechanical television scanning system. | ( ) | ( ) |
| d. The first color picture tube was invented during World War I.           | ( ) | ( ) |
| e. The radiovision was invented by Charles Jenkins                         | ( ) | ( ) |
| f. The Kinescope or Cathode Ray tube was invented by Nipkow                | ( ) | ( ) |
| g. In 1928 the TV projected images on a screen the size of a pound coin    | ( ) | ( ) |
| h. The VCR became a standard for watching Hollywood movies at home.        | ( ) | ( ) |

i. Theaters used 3D to bring people into the real theaters.

( ) ( )

**2. Answer the following questions:**

a. How many men became the most popular and prestigious inventors of Tv? mention them.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b. Who invented the first color picture tube?

\_\_\_\_\_

c. What is the purpose of smiling to your audience?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

d. Who discovered a way to transmit images onto a screen by the use of 60 horizontal lines?, what was his profession and nationality?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

e. What did people think about televisions coming to the public?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Find in the text the opposites of:**

a. Unpopular \_\_\_\_\_

b. Slow \_\_\_\_\_

c. Unknown \_\_\_\_\_

d. Darker \_\_\_\_\_

e. Depressed \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Match the following synonyms from the text.**

- |                |       |                  |
|----------------|-------|------------------|
| 1. Evolve      | _____ | a. Status        |
| 2. Prestigious | _____ | b. Communicate   |
| 3. Device      | _____ | c. Suitable      |
| 4. Famous      | _____ | d. Achieve       |
| 5. Transmit    | _____ | e. Gadget        |
| 6. Fear        | _____ | f. Fortune       |
| 7. Wealth      | _____ | g. Distinguished |
| 8. Convenient  | _____ | h. Trend         |
| 9. Attain      | _____ | i. Fright        |
| 10. Fad        | _____ | j. Grow          |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

## Changes in TV Technology From 1930- 2050 Prediction-Analysis-Data Collecting

1930's



GO TO GOOGLE AND SEARCH FOR "VINTAGE TELEVISIONS" DRAW A PICTURE OF WHAT YOU SEE..

2017



GO TO GOOGLE AND SEARCH FOR "4K READY TELEVISION" DRAW A PICTURE OF WHAT TV YOU SEE..

2050

GO TO -YOUR BRAIN- AND PREDICT WHAT TV'S MIGHT LOOK LIKE IN THE YEAR 2050....DRAW YOUR VISION ON THIS PAGE DESCRIBE WHAT NEW FEATURES IT MIGHT HAVE

GO TO WIKIPEDIA OR GOOGLE AND SEARCH FOR THE FOLLOWING TERMS-AND GIVE DEFINITIONS ON THEM

4K RESOLUTION=

1080P=

STANDARD DEFINITION TELEVISION

ASPECT RATIO+-

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A 16:9 ASPECT RATIO AND 4:3 ASPECT RATIO