

# Inventions After 1799

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American History

Ron Paul Curriculum

<http://bit.ly/RPC-AmericanHistory>

## **Week 15: Jefferson and Madison: election of 1800 to 1817**

1800: Screw-cutting lathe, Maudsle  
1800: Loom with punch cards: Jacquard  
1800: Battery: Volta  
1800: Incandescent light: Davy  
1800: Home gas lighting: Murdoch  
1801: Modern suspension bridge: Finley  
1801: Fire hydrant: Graff  
1801: Carbon paper: Turri  
1804: Steam locomotive (failed—too heavy): Trevithik  
1805: Vapor-compression refrigeration theory: Evans  
1807: Steamboat: Fulton  
1807: Percussion cap ignition for guns: Forsyth  
1807(?): Electric arc lamp: Davy  
1808: Lobster trap: Thorndike  
1810: Tin can: Durand/Appert,  
1811: Breechloading firearms: Hall/Thornton  
1813: Circular saw: Babbitt  
1814: Steam locomotive (worked): Stephenson  
1815: Miner's lamp: Davy  
1815: Dental floss: Parmly  
1816: Stethoscope [ear trumpet/"microphone" – new function]: Laennec

## **Week 16: Monroe and Adams: 1817–1829**

1818: Profile lathe: Blanchard  
1820(?): Paved road: McAdam  
1821: Electric motor: Faraday

1822: Photoetching: Niépce  
1823: Raincoat: Mackintosh  
1824: Portland cement: Aspdin  
1825: Electromagnet: Sturgeon  
1825: Passenger railway: Stephenson  
1827: Friction match: Walker  
1827: Microphone: Wheatstone

### **Week 17: Jackson: 1829–1837**

1829: Typewriter: Burt  
1829: Graham cracker: Graham  
1829: Braille printing: Braille  
1830: Sewing machine: Thimonnier  
1830: Lawn mower: Budding  
1831: Railroad T-rail: Stephens  
1831: Multiple coil magnet: Henry  
1831: Doorbell: Henry  
1831: Grain reaper: McCormick  
1831: Electric dynamo/generator: Faraday  
1832: Alternating current: Pixii  
1832: Stereoscope: Braille  
1833: Lock-stitch sewing machine: Hunt  
1834: Corn planter: Blair  
1834: Combine harvester/thresher: Moore  
1835: Incandescent light bulb: Lindsay  
1835: Vapor-compression refrigerator: Perkins  
1835: Wrench: Merrick  
1835: Steam shovel: Otis  
1835: Propeller: Smith  
1835: Mechanical calculator: Babbage  
1835: Electrical relay: Henry  
1835: Electric street car: Davenport

### **Week 18: Van Buren through Polk: 1837–1849**

1836: Colt revolver  
1836: Morse code  
1836: Circuit-breaker: Page

1837: Self-polishing cast steel plow: Deere  
1837: Postage stamp: Hill  
1838: Daguerreotype photo: Daguerre  
1839: Rubber vulcanization: Goodyear  
1839: Corn sheller: Denison  
1839: Pedal-driven bicycle: Macmillan  
1840: Electric clock: Bain  
1840: Blueprint: Herschel  
1841: Stapler: Slocum  
1841: Guided refracted light: Colladon and Babinet  
1842: Grain elevator: Dart  
1842: Ether (Revealed in 1849, after Morton's claim in 1846): Long,  
1843: Facsimile: Bain  
1843: Steam-powered passenger iron ship: Brunel  
1843: Hand-cranked ice cream maker: Johnson  
1843: Rotary printing press: Hoe  
1844: First public telegraph message: Morse  
1845: Pneumatic tire: Thompson  
1845: Adhesive tape: Day  
1845: Rubber band: Perry  
1846: Sewing machine needle with a hole in the point: Howe  
1846: Printing telegraph: House  
1846: Ether: Morton (Crawford Long challenged this.)  
1846: Kerosene: Gesner  
1847: Antiseptics: Semmelweis  
1847: Doughnut: Gregory  
1847: Gas mask: Haslett

### **Week 19: Taylor through Buchanan: 1849–1861**

1848: Jackhammer: Couch  
1848: Pin-tumbler lock: Yale  
1849: Safety pin: Hunt (He sold the invention for \$400.):  
*1851: London's Great Exhibition*  
1851: Fire-alarm box: Farmer  
1852: Gyroscope: Foucault  
1852: Elevator brake: Otis  
1853: Syringe: Wood  
1853: Potato chips: Crum  
1853: Manned glider: Cayley

1855: Steel production: Bessemer  
1855: Sewing machine motor: Singer  
1855: Rayon: Audemars  
1856: Pasteurization  
1856: Egg beater: Collier  
1856: Condensed milk: Borden  
1857: Steel coil spring: ???  
1857: Train sleeping car: Pullman  
1857: Toilet paper roll: Gayetty  
1858: Rotary washing machine: Smith  
1858: Screw-top salt and pepper shakers: Mason  
1858: Mason jar  
1858: Pencil eraser: Lipman  
1858: Sheave twine knotter: Appleby  
1858: Dustpan: McNeill  
1858: Ironing board: Vandenburg/Harvey  
1858: Can opener: Warner  
1859: Internal combustion engine: Lenoir  
1859: Electric heater: Simpson

## **Week 20: Lincoln and Davis: 1861–1865**

1860: Lever-action repeating rifle: Henry  
1861: Jelly bean: Schraft  
1861: Postcard: Charlton  
1862: Rotary machine gun: Gatling  
1863: Linoleum: Walton  
1863: Ratchet wrench: Richardson  
1863: 4-wheeled, side-by-side roller skate: Plimpton  
1863: Barbed wire: Kelly

## **Week 21: Johnson through McKinley, 1865–1901**

1865: Cowboy hat: Stetson  
1865: Rotary printing press/rolled paper: Bullock  
1866: Dynamite: Nobel  
1866: Urinal: Rankin  
1866: Chuckwagon: Goodknight  
1867: Modern typewriter: Scholes

1867: Paper clip: Fay  
1867: Ticker tape: Calahan  
1867: Train refrigerator car: Sutherland  
1868: Air brakes: Westinghouse  
1868: Paper bag: Knight  
1868: Railway traffic light: Knight,  
1868: Tape measure: Fellows  
1869: Pipe wrench: Stillson  
1869: Clothes hanger: North  
1870: Rotary can opener: Lyman  
1870: Sandblasting: Tilghman  
1870: Feather duster: Hoag  
1871: Coil spring mattress: Westphal  
1871: Russet potato: Burbank  
1872: Mail-order catalogue: Ward  
1873: Barbed wire/mass production: Glidden  
1873: Earmuffs: Greenwood  
1873: Grain silo: Hatch  
1873: Jeans: Strauss/Davis  
1874: Automatic fire sprinkler: Parmalee  
1874: Ice cream soda: Green  
1874: Quadraplex telegraph (multiplexing signals): Thomas Edison  
1874: QWERTY keyboard: Scholes  
1875: Dental drill: Green  
1875: Mimeograph printing: Edison  
1876: Telephone: Alexander Graham Bell  
1876: Carpet sweeper: Bissell  
1877: Cylinder phonograph: Edison  
1877: Moving pictures: Muybridge  
1878: Carbon microphone: Edison  
1879: Folding carton: Gair  
1879: Incandescent light bulb: Edison  
1879: Cash register: Ritty  
1880: Photophone: Bell and Tainter  
1880: Piezoelectricity: Jacques and Pierre Curie  
1881: Metal detector: Bell  
1881: Electric iron: Seely  
1882: Electric fan: Wheeler  
1883: Electric thermostat: Johnson  
1884: Light switch: Holmes  
1884: Recoil-powered machine gun: Maxim

1884: Paper strip film: Eastman  
1884: Fountain pen: Waterman  
1884: Steam turbine: Parsons  
1884: Dissolvable pill: Upjohn  
1884: Skyscraper (10 stories): Jenney  
1885: Internal combustion automobile: Benz,  
1885: Gas-engine motorcycle: Daimler  
1885: Fuel dispenser: Bowser  
1885: Popcorn machine: Cretors  
1885: Photographic roll film: George Eastman  
1885: Electric food mixer: Rufus Eastman  
1886: Linotype typesetting: Mergenthaler  
1886: Coca-Cola: Pemberton  
1886: Filing cabinet: Brown  
1886: Telephone directory/Yellow Pages: Donnelley  
1886: Dishwasher: Cochrane  
1887: Radar waves discovered: Hertz  
1887: Phonograph record/"platter": Berliner  
1887: Screen door: Harger  
1887: Slot machine: Fey  
1888: Paper drinking straws: Stone  
1888: AC motor and transformer: Tesla  
1888: Revolving door: Van Kannel  
1888: Ballpoint pen: Loud  
1888: Contact lens: Eugen  
1888: Touch typing: McGurrian  
1888: Punch clock: Bundy  
1888: Drywall (plasterboard): ???  
1888: Rangefinder: Fiske  
1889: Matchbook: Pusey  
1889: Flexible flyer sled/"Rosebud": Allen  
1889: Payphone: Gray  
1890: Stop sign: Eno  
1890: Tabulating machine: Hollerith  
1890: Smoke detector: Edison  
1890: Shredded wheat: Perky  
1891: Ferris wheel: Ferris  
1891: Escalator/"inclined elevator": Reno  
1891: Tesla coil  
1892: Diesel engine: Diesel  
1892: Padded bicycle seat: Garford (Obsolete)

1892: Light dimmer: Woods  
1892: Fingerprint system: Galton  
1892: Bottle cap: Painter  
1892: Gasoline-powered tractor/thresher: Froelich  
1892: Vacuum flask: Dewar  
1893: Zipper: Judson  
1893: Pinking shears: Austin  
1894: Mousetrap: Hooker (you can't build one better)  
1894: Medical gloves: Halsted  
1894: Corn flakes: Kellogg  
1895: Radio: stolen from Tesla by Marconi  
1896: Rubber heel: O'Sullivan  
1896: Cotton candy: Wharton  
1897: Ice cream scoop: Cralle  
1897: Exhaust muffler: Reeves  
1897: Condensed soup: Dorrance  
1897: Charcoal briquette: Zwoyer  
1898: Motorized vacuum cleaner: Thurman  
1898: Candy corn: Renninger  
1898: Remote control: Tesla  
1898: Semi-automatic shotgun: Browning  
1898(?): Tin foil: ???  
1899: Flashlight: Misell  
1900: Nickel-zinc battery: Edison  
1900: Fly swatter: Montgomery  
1900: Thumb tack: Moore  
1900: Dirigible: Zeppelin  
1901: Safety razor : Gillette  
1901: Radio direction finder: Stone

## **Week 22: Roosevelt and Taft, 1901–13**

1902: Air conditioning: Carrier  
1902: Neon light: Claude  
1903: Coat hanger: Parkhouse  
1903: Crayons: Binney & Smith  
1903: The first successful gas turbine: Ægidius Elling.  
1903: Safety glass: Benedictus  
1903: Windshield wipers: Anderson  
1903: Airplane: Wright brothers

1904: Ice cream cone: Hamwi  
1904: Teabag: Sullivan  
1904: Vacuum tube and diode: Fleming.  
1905: Popsicle: Epperson  
1906: Electronic amplifying tube: De Forest  
1906: Planters peanuts  
1907: Dixie cups: Luellen & Moore  
1907: Outboard motor: Evinrude  
1907: Paper towels: Scott  
1907: Helicopter: Cornu.  
1907: Bakelite (synthetic plastic): Baekeland  
1908: Cellophane: Brandenberger.  
1908: Model T car: Ford  
1909: Transmission of images (TV): Rignoux & Fournier  
1909: Instant coffee: Washington  
1910: Headphones: Baldwin  
1910: Aluminum foil: Neher  
1911: Automobile ignition: Kettering  
1911: Highway dividing lines: Hines  
1912: Rocket, liquid fueled: Goddard  
1912: Shopping bag: Deubner  
1912: Tank: De La Mole.  
1912: Life Savers: Crane

### **Week 23: Wilson's first term: 1913–1917**

1912: Autopilot: Sperry Corp.  
1913: Crossword puzzle: Wynne.  
1913: Brassiere: Jacob  
1913: Modern zipper: Sundback  
1914: Tinkertoys: Pajeau  
1914: Pyrex: Sullivan & Taylor  
1915: Mechanical pencil: Hayakawa  
1916: Stainless steel: Brearly  
1916: Rangefinder camera: Kodak

### **Week 24: Wilson's second term: 1917–1921**

1918: Fortune cookies: Jung



1919: Pop-up toaster: Strite  
1920: Band-Aid: Dickson  
1920: Handheld electric hair dryer: ???  
1920: Commercial radio: KDKA (Pittsburgh)

### **Week 25: Harding and Coolidge: 1921–1929**

1921: Traffic light: Potts  
1922: Blender: Poplawski  
1922: Insulin: Banting.  
1922: Technicolor: ???  
1923: Frozen food: Birdseye  
1924: Kleenex  
1925: Milk carton (invented in 1915): Van Wormer  
1927: Television: Farnsworth  
1927: Automated bread slicer: Frederick  
1927: Kool-Aid: Perkins  
1927: Light-emitting diodes: Losev  
1928: Electric shaver: Schick  
1928: Bubble gum: Diemer  
1928: Penicillin: Fleming  
1928: Yo-Yo: Duncan

### **Week 26: Hoover through FDR's first term: 1929–37**

1929: Sunglasses: Sam Foster  
1929: Car radio: Galvin  
1930: Cellophane tape: Drew  
1930: Chocolate chip (and cookie): Wakefield  
1930: Jet engine: Whittle and von Ohain  
1931: Electric guitar: Beauchamp and Rickenbacker  
1932: Parking meter: Magee  
1932: Radio telescope: Jansky  
1933: FM radio: Armstrong  
1934: Tape recorder: Begun  
1935: Ballpoint pen ink: Ladislas & Georg Biro  
1935: Monopoly board game: Darrow  
1935: Canned beer: ???  
1935: Radar device: Watson-Watt

## **Week 27: FDR's second term to Pearl Harbor: 1937–41**

1937: Shopping cart: Goldman  
1938: Nylon stockings: Carothers  
1938: Xerography: Carlson  
1938: Teflon: Plunkett  
1938: Freeze-dried coffee: Nescafe  
1939: Modern helicopter: Sikorsky  
1939: Commercial TV in New York City: RCA, Dumont  
1940: Turing machine: Alan Turing  
1940: Jeep: Pabst  
1941: Aerosol spray can: Goodloe & Sullivan.

## **Week 28: FDR and Truman: 1941–53**

1942: Duct tape: Johnson & Johnson Company  
1942: Nuclear reaction: Fermi  
1942: Digital computer: Atanasoff & Berry  
1943: Stereo headphones: Koss  
1943: Aqualung: Gagnan & Cousteau  
1944: Blue baby heart operation: Blalock and Thomas  
1944: Kidney dialysis machine: Kolff  
1945: Atomic bomb: Manhattan Project  
1945: Tupperware: Tupper  
1946: Bikini swimsuit: Reard  
1946: Microwave oven: Spencer  
1946: ENIAC computer: Mauchly & Eckert  
1946: Disposable diapers: Donovan  
1947: Kitty litter: Lowe  
1947: Instant photography: Land  
1947: Transistor: Bardeen, Brattain, & Shockley  
1947: Polio vaccine: Salk  
1948: Scrabble: Butts  
1948: Frisbee: Morrison & Franscioni.  
1948: Velcro: de Mestral  
1949: Cake mix: Betty Crocker (not really)  
1950: Diners Club card: Schneider  
1951: Power steering: Davis

1951: Video tape recorder: Ginsburg  
1951: Liquid paper: Graham  
1951: Random Access Memory (RAM): Forrester  
1952: Computer compiler: Hopper  
1952: Bar code: Woodland & Silver  
1952: Mr. Potato Head: Lerner

### **Week 29: Eisenhower: 1953–61**

1953: WD-40: Larsen  
1953: Magic Marker: Rosenthal  
1953: Transistor radio: Texas Instruments  
1954: Fiber optics: Hopkins and Kapany  
1954: Geodesic dome: Fuller  
1954: Commercial color TV: NBC  
1955: McDonald's franchise: Kroc  
1956: TV remote control: Adler  
1956: Rolodex: Neilsen  
1956: Commercial videotape: Ampex  
1956: Container ship: McLean  
1957: Stereophonic records: Audio Fidelity  
1958: Integrated circuit: Kilby and Noyce  
1958: LEGO blocks: Godtfred Christiansen  
1958: Laser: Gould  
1959: Barbie doll: Handler  
1959: Microchip: Kilby and Noyce  
1959: Pantyhose: Gant  
1960: Etch-a-Sketch: Granjean  
1960: Echo I communications satellite  
1960: Oral contraceptive: Searle & Co.

### **Week 30: Kennedy and Johnson: 1961–69**

1962: Audiocassette: Philips Corporation  
1962: Fiber-tip pen: Horie  
1963: Highlighter: Honn  
1964: Holography: Leith and Upatnieks  
1964: Smiley face: Ball  
1965: Kevlar: Kwolek

1965: Veg-O-Matic: Popeil  
1966: Hand-held calculator: Kilby, VanTassel & Merryman  
1967: Smoke alarm: BRK Electronics  
1967: Heart transplant: Barnard  
1968: Computer mouse: Engelbart  
1968: Microprocessor: Hoff

### **Week 31: Nixon, Ford, and Carter: 1969–81**

1969: Bank ATM  
1970: Floppy disc: Shugart  
1971: karaoke machine: Inoue  
1971: CT scanner: Hounsfield  
1971: Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI): Lauterbur  
1971: FedEx hub routes: Smith  
1972: Pong video game: Bushnell  
1973: Ethernet: Metcalfe  
1973: GPS: Defense Department  
1973: Graphical user interface: Kay  
1973: Mobile phone: Mitchell and Cooper (Motorola)  
1973: Post-It notes: Fry & Silver  
1974: Rubik's Cube: Rubik  
1974: Ethernet: Xerox PARC  
1975: Digital camera: Sasson (Kodak)  
1976: Apple I: Jobs & Wozniak  
1978: Spreadsheet: Bricklin & Frankston  
1979: Walkman: Sony Corp  
1979: Laser printer: IBM

### **Week 32: Reagan through G. H. W. Bush: 1981–93**

1981: MS-DOS: Gates and Allen buy Q-Dos for \$50,000  
1981: IBM PC (uses MS-DOS)  
1984: CD-ROM  
1986: 3D printing: Hall  
1988: Prozac: Fuller  
1989: LASIK eye surgery: Pallikaris  
1990: World Wide Web: Berners-Lee

### **Week 33: Bill Clinton: 1993–2001**

1994: Commercial Web browser: Netscape  
1994: Amazon: Bezos  
1995: DVD: Philips, Sony, Toshiba, and Panasonic  
1995: eBay: Omidyar  
1996: High definition TV broadcast  
1997: WiFi: Hayes  
1998: Google: Brin & Page  
2000: Human genome project completed: Venter and Collins (rivals)

### **Week 34: G. W. Bush: 2001–2009**

2001: iPod: Apple  
2003: Skype: Zennström & Friis  
2004: Facebook: Zuckerberg  
2004: E-reader: Sony  
2005: YouTube: Hurley & Chen  
2007: iPhone: Apple  
2007: Nintendo Wii

### **Week 35: Obama: 2009–2017**

2009: Uber car rides  
2010: Driverless car: Google