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What is the most important events in history

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Sensitive documents can pile up quickly, especially if you’re a business owner or self-employed. However, what to actually do with all of these papers isn’t always obvious. Ensuring confidential information doesn’t get into the wrong hands is obviously important, but not everyone has the luxury of a shredder at home, and going out to buy your own shredder might not make sense if you only periodically need one. In many communities, people get around this dilemma with free shredding events. Residents are invited to come out and either shred documents themselves or turn them over to trusted charities for destruction. Finding one doesn’t have to be a hassle, either. Why Shred Documents? While it can be tempting to just toss documents in the trash, it’s not the wisest course of action in the long run. Identity thieves recognize that many people can’t be bothered to properly dispose of their papers and have been known to look through trash for potentially useful information, like social security and bank account numbers. Shredding documents makes obtaining confidential information that much harder, and what’s more, it can even be required by law to protect client or patient confidentiality under some circumstances. Photo Courtesy: Photofusion/Getty Images
Shredding also has some less direct benefits. It can free up extra space and make for a more orderly workspace, while the shredded paper can be conveniently and efficiently recycled, with the strips taking up less space than full sheets. And don’t forget the feeling of strange satisfaction many people get from shredding paper. What Is a Shredding Event? While some paper shredding events might be specific to a particular organization, they’re usually a free and open way for anyone to safely dispose of old documents. Local governments, businesses and even charities sometimes sponsor shredding events, although banks and even office supply stores have also been known to hold them, usually as part of a promotional effort to win over more customers or members. The events are held in community centers, school gymnasiums, libraries, lobbies and other public spaces that are easily accessed by the public. Such events often last for several hours for people with different work schedules to be able to make use of them. Photo Courtesy: Portland Press Herald/Getty Images
Sometimes, an organization makes its own paper shredders available to the public. However, they may also rent machines from a third party that can handle much larger shredders than you’re likely to see in a typical environment, ensuring everyone can shred their documents in a timely manner. Finding and Attending Free Shredding Events If you’re looking for a free shredding event near you, you’re not alone. Multiple websites exist for the sole purpose of finding such events, including Shred Nations, Shred-it and many more. These websites often have search functions that let you enter your city or zip code to find events in your area. You can also check for such events with your local bank, library, school, university or office supplies store, either in person or online. Community bulletin boards also sometimes promote shredding events. Photo Courtesy: Tim Boyle/Getty Images
Shredding events are inexpensive and convenient, but it’s important to proceed cautiously before you hand over your documents. Ideally, you want to be able to witness your documents get shredded personally so that you know they’ve definitely been destroyed. In some cases, shredding events may use cameras to let you virtually witness the shredding. You should also research the organization doing the shredding, whether it’s done by the organization hosting the event or a third party. If the process involves turning over your intact documents to have a company shred them off-site, you may want to rethink using it. Find Free Community Shredding Events You can find a shredding event near you by visiting shredit.com or other shredding services. These websites have search functions for you to enter your city or zip code to find events scheduled in your area. If shredding events are planned near you, you’ll get information about the date, time and location. If no events are scheduled near you, you’ll be asked to check back later. MORE FROM QUESTIONSANSWERED.NET
A Fonte has a B.A. in English from UC Berkeley, a Masters in Education from Harvard, and makes lists so she won't forget what she's learned. A list of the most important moments in history. Andrew Neel via Unsplash.
CanvaWhat Are the Most Important Historical Events?Hopefully, at some point in a person’s education, they have an opportunity to discuss this question: which were the most important moments in history . . . and why?Human history is chock full of pivotal moments—inventions that enabled changes, events that sparked movements, and movements that changed the entire world. History is young and full of these moments, which are too many to count and impossible to compare. Nevertheless, I’ve endeavored to compile this list of the ten most important moments in human history.
*But first, we must begin by defining our terms. What do we mean by “most important moments”?Most? There is no way to measure the relative importance of any moment, but I favored those events that impacted more people over longer periods of time.Important? For this list, I tried to choose moments in history that had a larger impact—positive or negative—on a larger number of people, including repercussions those moments might trigger in future generations.Moments? Some of the biggest “moments” began as small and unrecorded incidences—words or gestures, tiny sparks that touched off a series of cultural disruptions and new ways of thinking. I tried to locate a single event that started it all, but this was hard to do.(*This list is admittedly biased, arguably arguable, and listed in no particular order, and I invite you to join the discussion and chime in in the comments section below: What moment would you include on your list?Wall painting from the tomb of Menna (Thebes): 1400 B.C.The Neolithic Revolution: The Shift From Hunting-Gathering to Farming; 10,000 B.C.Can you imagine a map without neighborhoods, cities, borders, or territories? This is what our world might look like if humans had never stopped searching for food and started planting and raising their own food, instead.There is no record of the defining moments that caused this shift (like when people realized that seeds could be planted and how to enrich soils). Certainly, the transition away from wild harvesting was slow, but about 12,000 years ago, a move towards agriculture triggered a major transformation in the way humans lived. When we shifted from nomadic, hunter-gatherer traditions in favor of permanent settlements and farms, not only did it mean a more reliable food supply and more constant sources of nutrition, but it changed the shape of civilizations. Some argue that this shift planted the seeds of private ownership and capitalism.Permanent structures and settlements led to the formation of towns and cities. The ability to meet the population’s need for more crops and meat led to population explosions: 10,000 years ago there were about five million people in the world but today, there are more than seven billion. Having permanent, reliable food sources freed up a little time for people to do things besides always thinking about finding food. . . like building things, creating new inventions, making art or medicine, forming religion, doing science, etc. So the ability to control food sources was a key part in the formation of what we refer to as culture and civilization today.The End of the Western Roman Empire: September 4th, 476 CEThe Roman Empire, one of history’s greatest and most impactful, lasted almost 500 years and stretched almost 780,000 miles. It had a good, long run, but in 476 CE, it finally lost its last grip of control when a Germanic leader named Odoacer led a successful revolt against Romulus Augustulus, then Emperor.Romulus Augustulus was only a child of 16 and had only ruled for a year before he was deposed. Although all Roman emperors took the name Augustus (meaning venerable), he acquired the insulting nickname Momyllus Augustulus, roughly translating to little disgrace, as many blame him for the fall of the Western Roman Empire.Was it his fault? Not entirely. Romulus Augustulus just had the lousy luck of being the last one left holding the hot potato. In the end, its military controlled the government and its armies were comprised of paid soldiers who fought not for loyalty or love but just to make a buck. That and years of mounting political corruption, breakdowns in commerce and trade, widespread economic crises, and class conflicts all played a part.In his book Escape From Rome, Walter Scheidel argues that the fall of Rome was not a bad thing. . . in fact, it was a necessary, positive change. In a nutshell, he posits that the removal of Rome’s control led to small and large-scale innovations—cultural advancements in public education, private business organizations, individual freedoms and rights—that paved the way for modern development and prosperity. Scheidel asserts that “From the point of view of the world, the death of the Roman empire had a much greater impact than its prior existence.”476 CE is the year the western empire broke into smaller bits that eventually became the countries we know today. Although the Eastern Roman Empire continued as the Byzantine Empire for hundreds of years more, 476 CE is often quoted as the transition from the Age of Antiquity to the Middle Ages.The First University Opens in 895 CE in Fez (Morocco)The oldest existing, continually operating institution of higher learning in the world is the University of Karuein (University of al-Qarawiyyin), founded in 859 CE in Fez (Morocco) by Fatima bint Muhammad Al-Fihriya Al-Qarashiya. That’s right: The first university was founded by a woman (although women were not admitted to the institution until the 1940s).Although it started as a mosque, its teachings expanded over centuries and it morphed into a widely respected general educational institution (although it wasn’t officially declared a state university until 1963). The Guinness Book of World records recognizes it as the first university in the world.Can you imagine a world without schools? The idea that learning is important and that ideas should be valued, recorded, discussed, shared, and passed down is one that significantly changed the world. By 2040, it is estimated that there will be 600 million students enrolled in universities around the world per year.Fun facts:The first education system was created in the Xia Dynasty (2076–1600 BC). In Europe, the first university was established in Bologna, Italy in 1088 CE. In the US, education has only been deemed a fundamental human right since December 10, 1948, the day the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was proclaimed. Botticelli’s The Birth of Venus, thought to be based on an ancient Greek sculpture of Aphrodite, was painted during the Renaissance. Public DomainThe Renaissance (1300s in Florence, Italy)The Renaissance (a word that means rebirth) was a glorious period in human history that is often described as a cultural explosion of creativity that began in Florence, Italy, in the 14th century, and spread throughout Europe. It was a period of cultural, political, and economic rebirth that followed the Middle Ages and involved a rediscovery of classical art, literature, and philosophy that inspired a huge wave of creative thought and innovation that lasted until the 17th century. In general, it was a move away from fear towards beauty, truth, and wisdom. It included . . . A move from medieval scholasticism to the development of individualism, skepticism, classicism, secularism, and Humanism. Humanistic values applied to architecture, literature, art, and science. The fall of feudalism (nobles vs. peasants) and the rise of a capitalist market economy. An explosion of new inventions and works of art. High Points of the RenaissanceThe invention of eyeglasses (around 1300) Printing press invented (and Gutenberg Bible published), 1455 The Age of Exploration: 1476 to 1500 First modern atlas published, 1570 Telescope invented, 1608 Microscope invented, late 1660s Important Players:Writers: Dante, Petrarch. Shakespeare Artists: da Vinci, Michaelangelo, Raphael Scientists: Galileo, Newton, and Leibniz Explorers: Columbus, da Gama, and Magellan Overall, the Renaissance inspired curiosity, investigation, invention, discovery, and more human-centered ways of thinking.The Start of the First Industrial Revolution: 1760The first Industrial Revolution began in the 18th century, when new industrial innovations allowed societies to centralize, specialize, and grow. It began in Britain’s textile industry and spread to other fields and countries with the transcontinental railroad, cotton gin, steam engine, factories, electricity, and other inventions that changed society forever. In 1790, Samuel Slater (known as the father of the American Industrial Revolution) built the first American factory. He brought textile manufacturing secrets from England and built cotton-spinning mills in Rhode Island. His factories became known as the Rhode Island System and his ideas were quickly imitated and improved upon.The invention of factories powered by machines inspired an explosion of urban growth, increased international trade, social upheavals, new sources of wealth, and new systems of authority. It transformed how humans think about work and careers, social welfare, and what it means to earn a living.Child labor was commonplace during most of the Industrial Revolution. In the US in 1870, there were over 750,000 children under 15 working in factories.Iliazio Irizar via Wikimedia CC BY-SA 4.0“The Shot Heard Around the World” on April 19, 1775: The Start of the American RevolutionToday, most of the world’s nations are nominal republics, at least, and this is largely due to the success of the American revolution and republic. The end of British rule meant a new kind of government was possible, one that was actually “for the people” (although it was only for white men, at first). This concept of democracy was new, but it appealed worldwide and had huge, lasting repercussions.On April 19, 1775, British soldiers (red coats) and colonists (minutemen) first exchanged gunfire in Lexington, Massachusetts. It’s unclear exactly who shot first, but it was dubbed “the shot heard round the world” because it signaled the start of the American Revolution and it was the first step toward the creation of America as a nation.The American Revolutionary War lasted from 1775 to 1783. Its ultimate success instilled the new idea that people could take power and participate in their own government rather than blindly supporting a distant or uninterested monarch. It led to the adoption of the Declaration of Rights (which guaranteed new personal freedoms for worship, speech, and public meetings, among others) and the Constitution (which outlined three equal branches of power: executive, legislative, and judicial, and more).The American Revolution is considered by many to be the point of origin of the Age of Revolution. In a nutshell, it inspired revolution and fights for freedom all over the world.“The Shot Heard Around the World” during the Battle of Lexington on April 19, 1775Public DomainThe Ogé Rebellion of the Haitian Revolution: August—Sept 1791Slavery has probably existed as long as humans have and, despite centuries of anti-slavery legislation and protests, it still exists today. Although most places in the world have long histories of efforts to eradicate the practice of human trafficking, it is still widespread: According to The Global Slavery Index, approximately 40.3 million people are subject to slavery today—71% female, 25% children.Since it’s impossible to pinpoint a start or end of slavery, in order to include it on this list, we must look to those first protests against it. In 1791 in Haiti (then called Saint Domingue), an affranchis (freed slave) named Jacques Vincent Ogé led a group of enslaved people in a rebellion against the French. Aided by abolitionists, he armed and amassed 300 men, mostly mixed-race and free Black people, and led “common front of gens de couleur against the forces of white supremacy.”Although the Ogé Rebellion was not immediately successful, it inspired a series of slave revolts and rebellions over a 13-year period that became known as the Haitian Revolution, often described as the largest and most successful slave rebellion in the history of the Western Hemisphere. In Saint Domingue, the protests ended not just slavery but also ended in independence from France. On January 1, 1804, the island declared independence and took the name of Haiti.Haiti is the first country to be founded by formerly enslaved people. The Haitian Revolution inspired people all around the world to recognize and protest against the cruelty of slavery.Vincent Ogé 1790—1791, leader of the Haitian RevolutionTimeline of the Abolition of Slavery1803 Denmark-Norway became the first European country to ban the African slave trade. (Denmark didn't officially abolish slavery until 1859.) 1804 After declaring independence from France, Haiti became the first sovereign nation in the Western Hemisphere to abolish slavery. 1807 British Parliament enacts The Abolition of the Slave Trade Act, prohibiting Atlantic slave trade. (In 1833, Britain passes The Abolition of Slavery Act, ordering a gradual slavery abolition in all British colonies.) 1808 President Thomas Jefferson signs the Act to Prohibit the Importation of Slaves, a law that takes effect in 1808. (1865 US Congress passes and ratifies the 13th Amendment abolishing slavery in the US except as a punishment for crime.) 1811 Spain abolishes slavery, including in its colonies (although though Cuba rejected the ban until 1886). 1813 Sweden bans slave trading (and abolishes slavery in 1847). 1814 Netherlands bans slave trading (and 1863 abolishes slavery). 1826 France effects laws against slave trading (in 1848, France abolishes slavery). 1851 Brazil abolishes slave trading. (In 1888, Brazil abolishes slavery.) 1926 The League of Nations creates an international treaty, the Convention to Suppress the Slave Trade and Slavery, abolishing slavery. Today Slavery continues across the world, including all of these places, despite laws against it. 1796 First Vaccine Invented (The Start of the Medical Revolution)Smallpox, one of history’s deadliest diseases, was estimated to have killed at least 300 million people since the 1900s. But in 1980, the World Health Organization declared that it had been eradicated.We have Edward Jenner to thank for this. In 1796, he used live cowpox virus to create the first vaccine (for smallpox). Although variation (smearing a healthy person with an infected sample to confer immunity) had been practiced since 11th century in China, Jenner was the first to demonstrate it to a scientific community and his work led to the development of the first smallpox vaccine in 1798.The hair-of-the-dog idea that you could use a virus against itself this way had a ripple effect, spurring many more vaccines and saving many more lives.Brief Timeline of Vaccine InventionsCholera: 1897 Plague: 1897 Anthrax: 1904 Tetanus: 1923 Diphtheria: 1926 Pertussis: 1948 Covid-19: 2020 More than two million lives have been saved by vaccines in the last 25 years.November 9, 1989: The Day the Berlin Wall Came Down (the End of the Cold War)It may have been a mostly ceremonial act, but the removal of the Berlin wall was huge, symbolically. Instead of including WWI and II on this list, I include this event. Why? Because many of the animosities that grew during those wars and during the Cold War were figuratively finished when the Berlin wall finally fell.After the war was over, in 1949, Germany was split in two: half (the East) under a communist regime and the other half (West) with a more democratic government. The border ran right through the middle of Berlin—Germany’s capital, chief urban center, and cultural heart—where a barbed-wire-and-cinder-block fence was erected on August 12, 1961. It was replaced with a 15-foot concrete wall festooned with electric wire and studded with armed guards—an imposing physical representation of the Iron Curtain separating the two ideologies.On November 9, 1989, the whole world watched when the wall was finally brought down. Its fall represented an end to the hostilities of the Cold War and a turn towards democracy.The Invention of the Internet, 1960sIt’s hard for Millennials to imagine a world without the internet. The internet has had such a huge impact on the way things work that it’s hard for anyone alive to remember what things were like before.ARPANET, the first working prototype, was invented by the US Department of Defense in the late 1960s. Although the internet wasn’t widely adopted until later, on October 29, 1969, it delivered the first message was sent from UCLA to Stanford. The system crashed while delivering this one-word message (“LOGIN”), so Stanford only received the first two letters: LO, which seems apt, since the word “lo” is an old-fashioned word used to draw attention to an amazing, interesting thing: lo and behold!It wasn’t until 1983 that researchers finally began assembling the “network of networks” that morphed into the modern-day Internet as we know it, and in 1990, computer scientist Tim Berners-Lee invented the world-wide web (www). In January, 2021, there were 4.66 billion active internet users in the world. Today, people spend, on average, 6 hours and 42 minutes online per day.A List of Important InventionsThe Wheel: 3500 BC The Compass: 200 BC Gunpowder: 800 Printing Press: 1440 Mechanical Clock: 725 Steam Engine: 1698 Vaccine: 1796 Indoor plumbing: early 1800s Team-Powered Train: 1804 Anesthesia: 1844 Telephone: 1876 Electric light: 1879 Cars: 1886 Cameras: 1888 Radio: 1895 Airplanes: 1903 Television: 1926 The Computer: 1939 The Internet: 1965 Cellphones: 1973 Personal computers: 1981 The World Wide Web: 1991 What brought you here?© 2021 A Fonté