Questions Relating to Inventions that Shook the World Video Series – Episode 2 (1910s)

TRUE / FALSE 1. The parachute inventor jumped off a building in Washington, D.C. near the U.S. Patent Office with his invention (that looked more like a women’s skirt) in an effort to earn a patent for his invention.

TRUE / FALSE 2. The inventor of sonar almost gave up on his invention because it wasn’t able to detect icebergs in the ocean and thus didn’t prevent the Titanic from sinking even though it had sonar on board.

TRUE / FALSE 3. The inventor of the fireman’s hood was an African-American son of former slaves, who saved men digging a tunnel with his invention that drew cleaner air from near the floor.

TRUE / FALSE 4. The inventor of the pop-up toaster loved burned toast, and originally had trouble selling his invention because he intentionally designed it to burn and crisp the toast more than most people liked.

TRUE / FALSE 5. While the inventor of the hand-held machine gun finally succeeded by using smaller pistol-type bullets, his invention was too late to be useful in World War I.

Questions Relating to Inventions that Shook the World Video Series – Episode 3 (1920s)

TRUE / FALSE 6. The inventor of movie sound found that the issue of the timing of the sound being off from the movie picture could be solved by imprinting the sound onto the movie film rather than using a separate record for the sound.

TRUE / FALSE 7. The inventor of the polygraph (lie detector) was an art enthusiast, who used it to solve a case of a stolen Picasso painting from a French art gallery.

TRUE / FALSE 8. Even though he never intended to, Albert Einstein contributed to the modern kitchen appliance market by improving the oven’s ability to produce heat using Freon gas.

TRUE / FALSE 9. The inventor of the television used a hat box lid with holes in it to develop his prototype.

TRUE / FALSE 10. The New York Times printed an editorial trashing the inventor of modern liquid rocket fuel (Robert Goddard’s) ideas. It printed a retraction in 1969, when the Apollo crew was on the way to the first landing of man on the Moon using his invention.

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Questions Relating to Inventions that Shook the World Video Series – Episode 4 (1930s)

TRUE / FALSE 11. The inventor of the walkie-talkie came up with the idea when he was lost at sea in a boat, and he refused to share his technology with the Canadian military during World War I as he worried the technology would be captured by the enemy.

TRUE / FALSE 12. The inventor of the helicopter discovered that he could offset the destabilizing effects of the spinning motion of the main rotor blades on the helicopter with a second rotor on a tail fin that was long enough to be outside the ‘wash’ of air from the main blades.

TRUE / FALSE 13. The parking meter inventor used a student contest at a university in Oklahoma to help him design the device that could help solve the problem of office workers filling up parking spaces for an entire day.

TRUE / FALSE 14. The copier was invented by a Russian spy who wanted to be able to copy documents and leave the originals in place so he would not be caught. His device, however, was pocket-sized and too small for most office copying needs.

TRUE / FALSE 15. The electric guitar employed two U-shaped magnets end to end, and was invented by a frustrated guitar player whose guitar volume wasn’t loud enough to be heard over other musical instruments of the day.