**Inventions that Changed the World, 1900-1945**

*PART I: Read along with me. These are the five themes of invention and technology:*

1. When new technologies emerge, it is expensive and in the hands of only the wealthy and powerful. Over time these technologies become cheaper and more accessible to the masses.
2. We build on the collective learning of those people who came before us.
3. Cultural diffusion occurs through invention and technology. People will migrate and interact to share in technologies and cultures will put their own spin on an existing technology.
4. Inventions and technology is dichotomous and paradoxical. This means that new inventions can be used for both, “good”, or “bad” purposes and these are often relative in definition.
5. As human beings move through time, technology and invention has accelerated us. One could chart this from the Oldowon Chopper to the iPod. This acceleration continues today.

*PART II: The World was changed during our Unit V time period due to nine inventions that emerged. We will research and evaluate these nine filling in a chart.*

**We will research the following inventions. Page numbers in the book correspond with them:**

**1. Industrialized Weapons**

**2. Scientific Racism/Eugenics**

**3. Movies**

**4. Electricity**

**5. The automobile**

**6. The airplane**

**7. The telephone**

**8. The assembly line**

**9. The radio**

Evaluate the pros and cons of these inventions along a) cultural, b) environmental, c) humanitarian, and d) economic lines.

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| Invention/Innovation of the time | How did it affect the culture? | How did it affect the environment? | How did it affect humanitarian efforts? | How did it affect the economy? |
| 1. Industrialized Weapons |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Eugenic Studies |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Movies |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Electricity |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Automobile |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Airplane |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Telephone |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Assembly Line |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Radio |  |  |  |  |

*Part III: I want you to rank these nine inventions in order of importance to the world. Essentially, the one that was the most influential and world changing will be your number 1 and the ninth most at 9. Then answer the following question:*

*“How did new technologies and scientific breakthroughs both benefit and imperil humankind?”*