

Read the story and answer the questions.

Alexander Graham Bell

Alexander Graham Bell lived from the years 1847-1922. He is best remembered for inventing the telephone. Before he invented the telephone, he taught speech to deaf students and was a professor at Boston University. Bell's interest in speech led him to experiment with transmitting speech electronically. He thought that sound-wave vibrations could be converted into electric currents at one end of a wire. Then, the current could be reconverted into identical sound waves on the receiving end of the wire. While working on this experiment, he heard the sound of a plucked reed coming through the end of the line where he was working. The sound had originated from another room where his assistant, Watson, was working. The two men had discovered a way to transmit sounds. The transmitting of words would come later with more experimenting.

On March 7, 1876, the U.S. Patent Office issued a patent to Bell for his idea of the telephone. Three days later, while Bell and Watson were working on the invention, Watson heard the words, "Mr. Watson, come here. I want you!" These words were coming through the receiving apparatus invented by Bell. The work of Bell and Watson paved the way for telephone service in the United States. On July 9, 1877, the first telephone company, Bell Telephone Company, was opened for business.

1. What is the main idea of this story? (Circle the answer)
 - A. Sound waves can be converted into electric currents.
 - B. The telephone is the greatest invention of all time.
 - C. Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone.

2. What did Bell do to earn a living before experimenting with transmitting speech?

3. What was the first thing Bell and Watson discovered while experimenting with transmitting speech?

4. Did Bell receive the patent before or after successfully inventing the telephone?

5. What were the first words heard through Bell's telephone?

Name _____ Skill: Reading Comprehension

Read the story and answer the questions.

Alexander Graham Bell

Alexander Graham Bell lived from the years of 1847-1922. He is best remembered for inventing the telephone. Before he invented the telephone, he taught speech to deaf students and was a professor at Boston University. Bell's father was a doctor who had to adjust his ears with electric currents at one end of a wire. Then, the current could be transmitted via electrical wires and the hearing end of the wire. While working on this experiment, he heard the sound of a plucked string passing through the end of the wire and he was hooked. The sound had originated in his father's mouth. The transmission of sound waves across the wire was experimenting.

On March 1, 1876, the U.S. Patent Office issued a patent to Bell for his idea of the telephone. Three days later, with Bell and Watson in the workshop, the telephone was invented. The telephone was the first of many inventions that Bell and Watson made. The telephone was the first of many inventions that Bell and Watson made. The telephone was the first of many inventions that Bell and Watson made. The telephone was the first of many inventions that Bell and Watson made.

- 1. What is the main idea of the story?
 - A. How Bell and Watson invented the telephone.
 - B. The invention of the telephone and its uses.
 - C. How Bell and Watson invented the telephone.

He taught speech to deaf students.

- 2. What was the first thing that Bell and Watson discovered while experimenting with transmitting sound?

A way to transmit sounds.

- 3. What does the word "before" mean in the sentence "before he invented the telephone"?

"Mr. Watson, come here. I want you!"