

Inventions Help People

by Stanley Brown



Genre	Build Background	Access Content	Extend Language
Nonfiction	• Inventors • Inventions • New Ideas	• Labels in Pictures • Historical Photographs	• Compound Words

Scott Foresman Reading Street 2.3.5



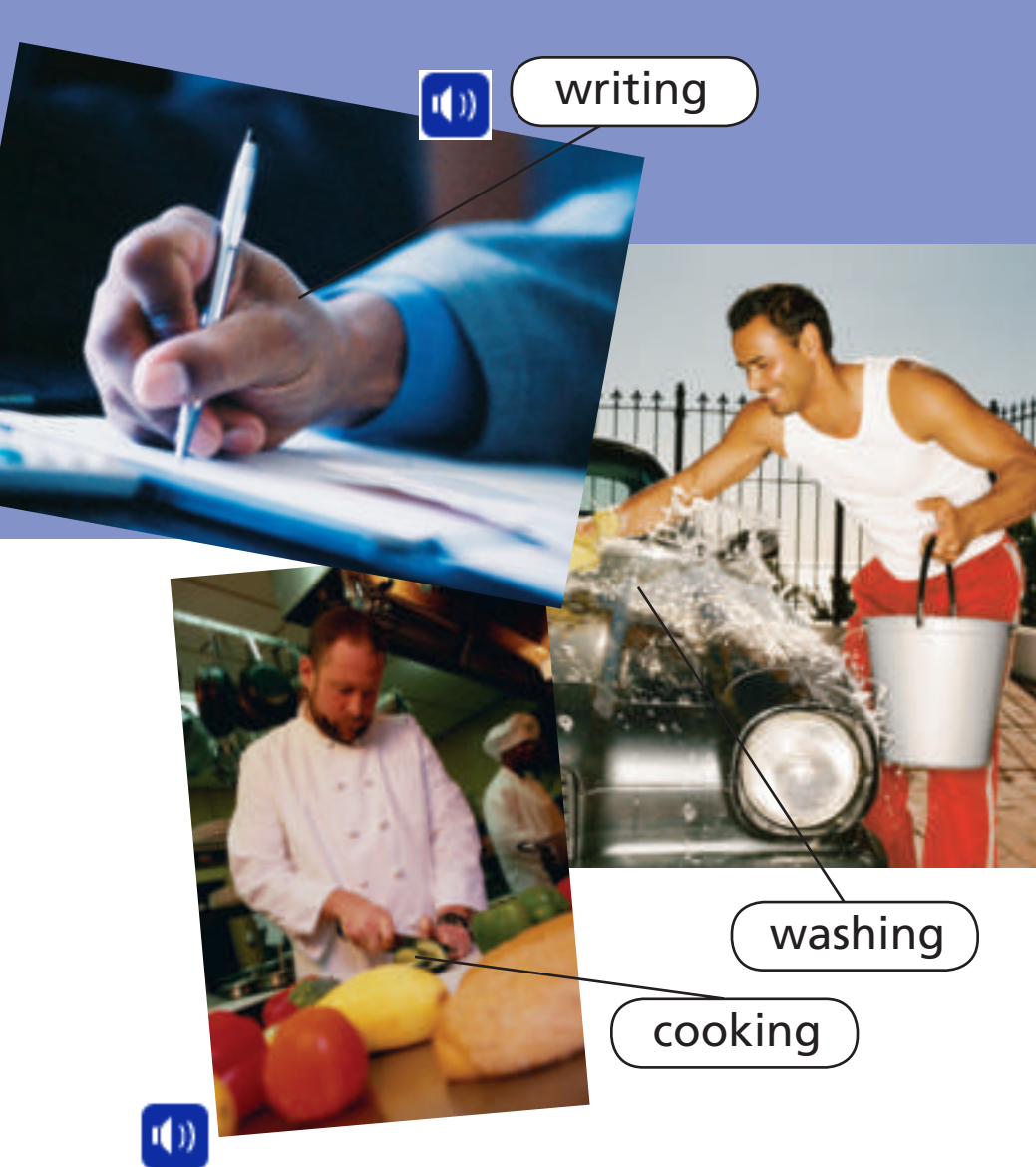


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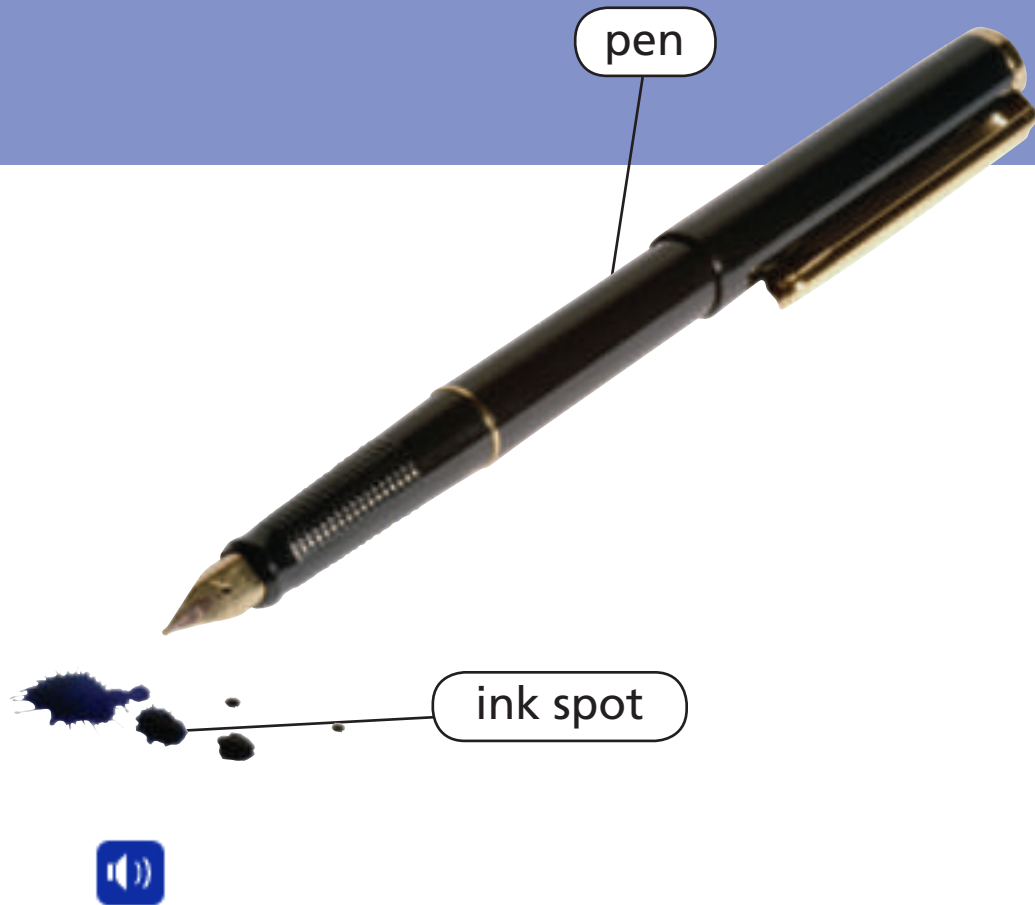
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Inventors look carefully at the way people do things. Inventors can observe for hours how people write, cook, wash clothes, clean the house, or wash the car. Then an inventor may come up with an idea to make the job easier. An inventor may invent a machine that helps people.

Let's think about washing clothes. For many years, people could wash clothes only by hand. They used washboards to clean their clothes. Their hands hurt after doing the wash. It was hard work!

Then about 100 years ago, the first electric washing machine was invented. Washing machines made the job easier!



Let's look at writing. For many years, people had to write by hand. At home or at school, people wrote letters, notes, or reports. They did it all by hand! Your hand got tired if you had to write many letters! If you used a pen and ink, your hands could get dirty! Or, your paper could get an ink spot.



About 140 years ago, the typewriter was invented. It made putting words on paper faster and easier.

Many people still like to write letters and cards by hand. It makes the letters and the cards very special.





Before there were cars, people walked, rode horses, or took trains to get places. The first car was made more than 120 years ago. The first cars were very slow. Later, new inventions made the car faster.



A car can make going from place to place faster. When there is a lot of traffic, it is not always faster. A lot of people still like to walk to a store or other places. Walking can be healthy and fun! It is a good way to exercise.





basketball



kite

string

tail

Some inventions are for fun.

About 115 years ago, the game of basketball was invented. This helped people play a sport in the winter.

Here is a very old invention: the kite. It was invented about 3,000 years ago! Aren't kites fun?

What would you like to invent?



Talk About It

1. How do inventions help people? Give some examples.
2. How do you think people would travel if the car had not been invented?

Write About It

3. On a separate paper, describe an invention you would like to create. Draw a picture of it. Tell whether the invention would be for fun or to make a job easier?

Extend Language

Compound words are made up of two smaller words. For example, *typewriter* is made up of the words *type* and *writer*. Find the two smaller words in the compound word: *washboard*.

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