Early communication dates back to **East Africa** approximately 3 million years ago.

The Anasazi Indians drew **pictographs** approximately 12,000 years ago.

Other cave paintings have been found near France dating back to **15,000-35,000 years ago**.

**Newspaper Rock**, S. Utah

Early people used cuneiform to write items including: poems, letters, and receipts.

What might a poem or letter during the time period in which cuneiform was used been about?

Mesopotamia is referred to as the “cradle of civilization” and the birthplace of writing.

What can you infer about Mesopotamia based on its nickname?

Egyptians are noted for developing the clock, calendar, and agriculture. Their cave paintings included Gods, Goddesses, and life after death.

Egyptians used **hieroglyphs** and the world’s first paper made from **papyrus** along the Nile.

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Based on your observations about hieroglyphs, write a word Egyptians may have regularly used and draw a symbol to represent it.

Following the fall of Egypt, Rome rose to power and the book trade grew. The cost of a book was little more than today’s prices. People owned books as well as used public libraries.

The **Renaissance** marked a rebirth of learning and the profession of manuscript writing grew.

The **Dark Ages** were a period of time (1000 years) characterized by a lack of knowledge development. Under the Medieval Church, monks served as scribes and public universities developed.
In 1450, Johann Gutenberg invented an artificial writing (printing) machine modified from the wire press.

In 1517, Martin Luther sparked the Protestant Reformation with his protests of the Catholic Church.

As a result of grievances to the King such as the stamp tax which placed an additional charge on all printed goods, new works emerged including Common Sense and the Declaration of Independence, both designed to support the fight for inalienable rights.

A well noted colonial printer was Benjamin Franklin.

Famous printed works included Harriett Beecher Stowe’s Uncle Tom’s Cabin, The Origin of Species, and Harvest of Human Wisdom.

Freedom of the press became addressed in 1735 by printer John Peter Zenger.

What amendment includes the freedom of the press and speech and where can this amendment be found?

In 1589, printing in color led to the “yellow kid” and comic books. In 1890, printing in color led to the “yellow kid” and comic books.

Inventions that followed the printing press included: telegraph, steamship, clipper ship, light bulb, telephone, typewriter, and photography.

Thomas Nast became a well-known political cartoonist and can be noted for the American political symbols donkey and elephant along with Uncle Sam and Santa Claus.

Over time printing became faster and in 1887 the Oatmore Merganthough Linotype was introduced.

In the more recent past advancements included sharper images and cutting costs of printing due to desktop publishing.

With the Age of Discovery print made its way to the “new world” and colonial prints included: prayer books, bibles, sermons, almanacs, and newspapers.

Printing has served as a means to “preserve the past, record the present, and help invent the future.”

- 3 examples of preserving the past-
- 2 examples of recording the present-
- 1 example of inventing the future-