

Topic Development Worksheet
Innovation in History: Impact and Change

Topic/Innovation:

In History

- **Why did the innovation come about when and where it did?**
- **What economic, political, social, technological, cultural, religious or other circumstances existed before, and perhaps caused or contributed to, the innovation of interest?**

Innovation

- **What was the innovation called? When was it adopted or developed?**
- **Who was involved, or, in other words, who were the innovators who created, designed, or implemented the innovation?**
- **What did the innovation look like, how did it work, and what previous ideas, objects, actions, or institutions did it replace?**
- **What benefits did it provide, and to whom? How was it received?**

Impact and Change

- **How did people react initially, in the short term (within a few years), and over the longer term (in later years and decades), to the new idea, arrangement, organization, or technology? How soon did people adopt or accept the innovation — or did they reject it?**
- **What happened to the ideas or items replaced by the innovation, and how quickly did those trends show up?**
- **How did it change people's ideas, scientific knowledge, everyday behavior, political processes, etc.?**
- **Did the innovation just influence people locally, or did its influences extend nationally or to other countries, and in what ways did the influence appear?**
- **Has the innovation been supplanted by other innovations, and how fast did that replacement process occur?**