

# Papyrus to PDA:

## Visual Communication Through the Ages

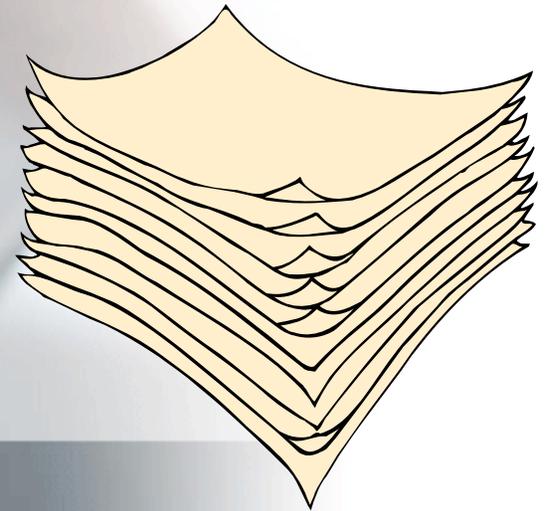
Group: Paper Pushers

Graphic Arts

Splendora High School

# Introduction of Paper

- Which invention had the greatest social, political, and economical impact?
- We make the case for **PAPER.**



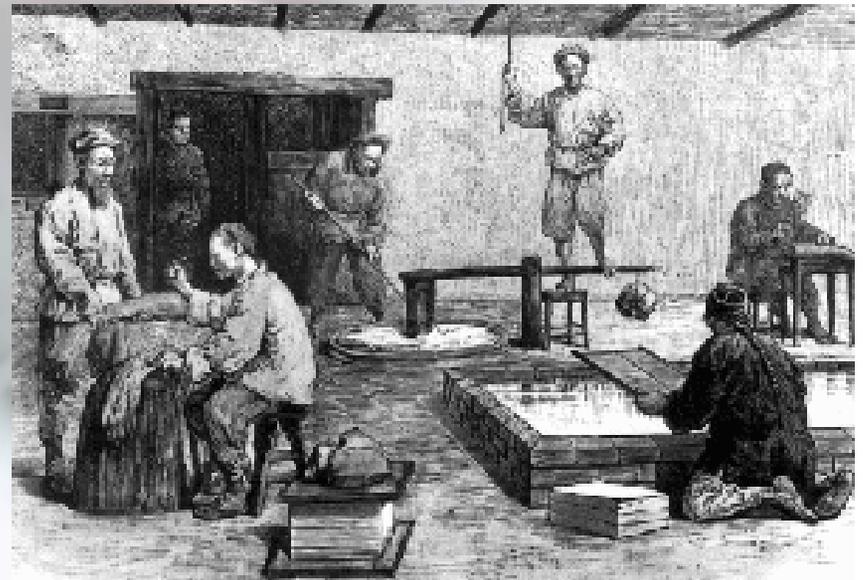
# History of Paper

- Prior inventions: Egyptian papyrus 4000 B.C, ancient Greek parchment by 100 B.C.
- Paper invented in China  
Ts'ai Lun, official in Chinese royal court, A.D. 105



# Chinese Paper

- Early Chinese paper made from rags, old fishing nets, hemp, china grass
- Improved with mulberry bark, hemp, and rags mixed with water, mashed to pulp, liquid pressed out, hung to dry in sun

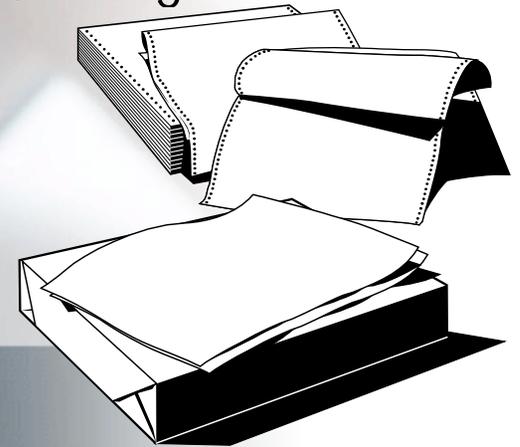


*Institute of Paper Science and Technology*  
[www.ipst.edu/amp/img/chinapm3.gif](http://www.ipst.edu/amp/img/chinapm3.gif)\*



# Making the Case for Paper: Social Impact

- Low cost, leads to increased availability
- Increased availability leads to greater literacy, stimulates growth of schools, universities
- Writing available to new classes in society
- Fundamental process of thinking changes, change from an oral to a literate culture
- Thinking 'captured,' made portable



# Making the Case for Paper: Economic Impact

- Paper: more scribes, fewer heralds!
- Writing/reading still elite until moveable type and mechanized paper manufacturing
- With both, jobs produced
- Wood pulp process perfected, papermaking drops in price:
  - 1864 - 28 cents/pound
  - 1897 - 2 cents/pound



# Making the Case for Paper: Political Impact

- Control of ideas: laws to keep “rags” from leaving country
- Newspapers spread political information, serve as “bully pulpit”
- Laws at turn of 20th century spur paper industry : tax credits granted for resource development, industries granted favorable freight rates



# Conclusion

Paper had the **greatest impact** on political, economical, and social change, as it **allowed all printing-related activity to develop**.

**Without** inexpensive, easy to produce paper, words could not have **wide distribution**.

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