Key Innovators

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| Aristotle  | Greek philosopher who wrote works of logic, metaphysics, ethics, natural sciences, politics, and poetics.  |
| Austen, Jane  | British writer who paved the way for Victorian authors with her irony and wit.  |
| Bi Sheng  | Chinese inventor credited with inventing movable type 300 years before Gutenberg’s similar invention revolutionized the Western world.  |
| Bell, Alexander Graham  | American inventor of the telephone, an early hearing aid, and an improved phonograph, among other inventions.  |
| Blackwell, Elizabeth  | American social reformer who was the first woman to receive a medical doctorate and the first woman to be appointed a pastor. She sought reform in women’s rights, abolition, and temperance.  |
| Bohr, Niels  | Danish physicist who received the Nobel Prize for his investigation of atomic structure and radiation.  |
| Carson, Rachel  | American writer, biologist, and ecologist who was a pioneer in environmental advocacy.  |
| Carver, George Washington  | American botanist, agricultural chemist, and educator who found innovations for the growth of peanuts, soybeans, and sweet potatoes.  |
| Copernicus  | Polish astronomer who furthered the theory that the sun is the center of the solar system.  |
| Crick, Francis  | British biologist who with James Watson proposed the double helix model of DNA.  |
| Curie, Marie  | French chemist who won two Nobel Prizes for her work with radiation.  |
| Dalton, John  | British chemist who formulated the atomic theory and the law of partial pressures.  |
| Darwin, Charles  | English natural scientist who formulated a theory on evolution by natural selection.  |
| DaVinci, Leonardo  | Italian painter, engineer, musician, and scientist who was probably the most versatile man of the Renaissance.  |
| Edison, Thomas  | American inventor who patented over one thousand inventions, including the first electric power plant and the microphone.  |
| Einstein, Albert  | German-born American physicist who formulated the special theory of relativity and the general theory of relativity and who won a Nobel Prize for his work on the photoelectric effect.  |
| Fleming, Alexander  | British bacteriologist who discovered penicillin.  |
| Ford, Henry  | American automobile manufacturer who developed a gasoline-powered automobile and who mass produced the Model T.  |
| Fulton, Robert  | American engineer who developed the first useable submarine, torpedo, and steamboat.  |
| Galileo  | Italian astronomer and mathematician who refined the refracting telescope.  |
| Gates, Bill  | American computer software designer and business entrepreneur who co-founded Microsoft.  |
| Goodall, Jane  | British zoologist who is known for her revolutionary study of chimpanzees.  |
| Harvey, William  | English physician, anatomist, and physiologist who discovered the circulation of blood in the human body.  |
| Jemison, Mae  | American astronaut who was the first African-American woman to go into space.  |
| Jenner, Edward  | British physician who discovered the small pox vaccination.  |
| Julian, Percy Lavon  | American chemist whose research yielded over 100 patents.  |
| King, Jr., Martin Luther  | American preacher and activist who was a main organizer of the Civil Rights movement.  |
| Lavoisier, Antoine  | French chemist who is considered the father of modern chemistry.  |
| Linnaeus, Carolus  | Swedish botanist who founded the modern classification system for plants and animals.  |
| Mann, Horace  | American educator who introduced reforms and regulations that greatly influenced public education.  |
| McClintock, Barbara  | American genetic botanist who received a Nobel Prize for her work with genes in plant cells.  |
| Meitner, Lise  | Swedish physicist who was one of the first to study nuclear fission.  |
| Mendel, Gregor  | Austrian botanist who founded the science of genetics and discovered the principle of inheritance.  |
| Mendeleev, Dmitri  | Russian chemist who invented the periodic table of elements.  |
| Monet, Claude  | French painter who advocated the school of Impressionism and who examined the effect of changing light on the subject.  |
| Mozart, Wolfgang Amadeus  | Austrian composer who was a child prodigy and composed over six-hundred works.  |
| Muir, John  | American naturalist who advocated the creation of natural parks and reservations.  |
| Newton, Issac  | English mathematician and scientist who invented differential calculus and who formulated the theory of universal gravitation and three laws of motion.  |
| Nightingale, Florence  | British nurse who organized and directed a unit of field nurses during the Crimean War and who is considered the founder of modern nursing.  |
| Roosevelt, Franklin  | American politician who was president of the United States and a governor of New York and whose administration implemented New Deal programs to assist Americans during the Great Depression.  |
| Schweitzer, Albert  | French philosopher, physician, and musician who founded a missionary hospital in Gabon and who won the Nobel Peace Prize.  |
| Victoria  | Queen of Great Britain and Ireland for over sixty years who influenced the sense of duty and moral code of the Victorian age.  |
| Vo-Dinh, Tuan  | Vietnamese-born biophysicist who invented numerous lifesaving devices that detect and diagnose diseases by optical scanning.  |
| Washington, Booker T.  | African-American educator who acquired an education after emancipation and presided over Tuskegee Institute.  |
| Watson, James  | American biologist who with Francis Crick proposed the double helix model of DNA.  |
| Woolf, Virginia  | British writer who perfected the modernist fiction technique of stream-of-consciousness  |