




3200 BC: Earliest form
of writing invented
in Sumer, Mesopotamia




508–507 BC:
Democracy established
in Athens, Greece




960: First circulating currency note issued
by the Song Dynasty in China




1450: Johann Gutenberg
invents the printing press




1452-1519: Leonardo da Vinci
creates plans for
self-propelled cart and
other vehicles




1674: Antonie van Leeuwenhoek
discovers microorganisms




1876: Nikolaus Otto invents the
internal combustion engine



1928: Alexander Fleming
discovers penicillin



1957: Sputnik, the first artificial satellite,
launched in Earth's orbit



1990s: The Internet is commercialized

Power of Context

Leonardo da Vinci – one of the finest geniuses our world has ever known – did not come close to achieving the engineering success of Henry Ford. Not because Ford was smarter. But because humanity's cumulative knowledge over the centuries had given Ford the scientific leaps, progressive ideas and tools that Da Vinci could only dream of. That's the power of Context.

With the power of imagination, lifetime learning and a firm conviction, I believe that we are today trying to create a better Context for us all. As my mentor, friend and brilliant computer scientist Alan Kay said, 'Context is worth 80 IQ points'. I leave you with that, as we prepare for a technology-enabled human revolution, waiting to happen.

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