**Student Activity Guide: Examining the Societal Impact of Innovation** Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unit 5 Lesson 1

**Part 1: Analyze the Impact of an Innovation on Society**

**Innovation**: The Printing Press

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Aspect of Society** | **Impact** |
| Education |  |
| Religion |  |
| Politics |  |
| Culture |  |
| Class |  |
| Law |  |
| Economy |  |
| Health |  |
| Science |  |

**Part 2: Small Impact versus Big Impact**

Look through the list of innovations in the table below. Circle the 5 innovations that you think have had the greatest impact on society.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Wearable Technology | Word Processing software | Laser Printers | Photoshop and other Graphics Programs | Language Translation Software |
| Face Recognition by computers | Portable music players | Texting | 3-D Printers | Fax Machines |
| GPS | Voice Mail | Video calls | Encryption | Photo sharing Apps |
| DNA sequencing | Email | The newest gaming platform | HD TV | Facebook |
| Wi-fi | Search Engines | Collaboration software (Google Docs) | The creation of the Internet | Ear buds |

Be prepared to share the reasons for your answers with your classmates.

**Part 3: Extended Learning**

**Innovation**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| --- | --- |
| **Aspect of Society** | **Impact** |
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Possible Answers to Activity 2

**Innovation: The Printing Press**

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| --- | --- |
| **Aspect of Society** | **Impact** (answers may vary) |
| Education | Books became cheaper, and the primary means of learning shifted from listening to reading. More people became educated. |
| Religion | The ability to make religious texts available to a large body of people led to new interpretations of those works. Also, certain books were banned based on religious reasons. |
| Politics | People could print their political views and send them out for wide distribution and influence. |
| Culture | Written literature became a form of entertainment and a means of communicating and spreading a culture to other parts of the world. |
| Class | Class became a more fluid aspect of society and the middle class grew proportional to the upper and lower classes. People who could afford books and who could pay for an education had a big advantage over people who did not have much money. However, those who became educated from lower classes became more socially mobile. |
| Law | The growth of plagiarism led to the creation of copyright laws. |
| Economy | The printing industry thrived. People who could read attained new jobs that required higher skills. New industries emerged. |
| Health | Successful medical practices were published and replicated. Modern medicine became more available. Individuals could read and learn about taking care of their own health and were not as dependent upon folk-lore or the knowledge and skills of local individuals. |
| Science | Scientists were able to collaborate and share ideas more easily. Scientific experiments that proved theories were able to be explained and reproduced by others, adding to their credibility. |