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Camera obscura is first used in Europe by Giambattista della Porta in Italy. 1559-1562: Spanish settlements in Alabama/Florida and Georgia claim dangers of hurricanes and local native warning tribes. 1565: Spanish settlers located New Spain (Mexico) colonize Florida's coastline at St. Augustine. 1565: Invention of the graphite pencil (in a wooden holder) by Conrad Gessner. Modernized in 1812. 1568: Gerardus Mercator creates the first Mercator projection map. 1572: Supernova SN 1572 is observed by Tycho Brahe in the Milky Way. 1582: Gregorian calendar is introduced in Europe by Pope Gregory XIII and adopted by Catholic countries. c. 1583: Galileo Galilei of Pisa, Italy identifies the constant swing of a pendulum, leading to development of reliable timekeepers. 1585: earliest known reference to the 'sailing carriage' in China. 1589: William Lee invents the stocking frame. 1591: First flush toilet is introduced by Sir John Harrington of England, the design published under the title 'The Metamorphosis of Ajax'. 1593: Galileo Galilei invents a thermometer. 1596: William Barents discovers Spitsbergen. 1597: Opera in Florence by Jacopo Peri. Entertainment in the 16th century ^ a b Modern reference works on the period tend to follow the introduction of the Gregorian calendar for the sake of clarity; thus NASA's lunar eclipse catalogue states "The Gregorian calendar is used for all dates from 1582 Oct 15 onwards. Before that date, the Julian calendar is used." For dates after 15 October 1582, care must be taken to avoid confusion of the two styles. ^ de Vries, Jan (14 September 2009). "The limits of globalization in the early modern world". The Economic History Review. 63 (3): 710–733. CiteSeerX 10.1.1.186.2862. doi:10.1111/j.1468-0289.2009.00497.x. JSTOR 40929823. S2CID 219969360. SSRN 1635517. ^ Singh, Sarina; Lindsay Brown; Paul Clammer; Rodney Cocks; John Mock (2008). Pakistan & the Karakoram Highway. Vol. 7, illustrated. Lonely Planet. p. 137. ISBN 978-1-74104-542-0. Retrieved 23 August 2010. ^ Babur (2006). Babur Nama. Penguin Books. p. vii. 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An Encyclopedia of World History (5th ed. 1973); highly detailed outline of events online free Media related to 16th century at Wikimedia Commons Timelines of 16th century events, science, culture and persons Retrieved from " 4 The following pages link to 16th century External tools (link count transclusion count sorted list) - See help page for transcluding these entries Showing 50 items. View (previous 50 | next 50) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500)Bagpipes (links | edit) List of decades, centuries, and millennia (links | edit) Fashion (links | edit) Giovanni Boccaccio (links | edit) History of Mali (links | edit) History of Mauritius (links | edit) Post office (links | edit) Snare drum (links | edit) Republican Party (United States) (links | edit) 20th century (links | edit) 15th century (links | edit) 17th century (links | edit) 18th century (links | edit) 1624 (links | edit) 1626 (links | edit) 1642 (links | edit) 1661 (links | edit) 1608 (links | edit) 1492 (links | edit) 14th century (links | edit) 1st century (links | edit) 13th century (links | edit) 4th century (links | edit) 12th century (links | edit) 11th century (links | edit) 1564 (links | edit) 1648 (links | edit) 1572 (links | edit) 1623 (links | edit) 1662 (links | edit) 1490s (links | edit) 1640s (links | edit) 1597 (links | edit) 1690 (links | edit) 1688 (links | edit) 7th century (links | edit) 10th century (links | edit) 9th century (links | edit) 8th century (links | edit) 6th century (links | edit) 5th century (links | edit) 3rd century (links | edit) 2nd century (links | edit) 1573 (links | edit) 1570s (links | edit) 1574 (links | edit) 1436 (links | edit) 1476 (links | edit) 1542 (links | edit) 1540s (links | edit) View (previous 50 | next 50) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500) Retrieved from " WhatLinksHere/16th century" The slate and stylus is the oldest device used to produce braille, an invention of Charles Barbier. A simple device, its main advantage is its portability. Slates come in basically two sizes: 27- and 41-cell width. Slates are basically two pieces of metal, connected by a hinge. The top metal piece serves as a guide for the stylus, a sharp metal awl held by a wooden handle. The back metal plate contains indented braille cells, which further serve to guide the stylus in the embossing of braille dots. The main disadvantage of the slate and stylus is one of orientation. Since you are embossing the dots into the paper, it stands to reason that the dots need to be made inverted; that is, Dots 1-2-3 are on the right rather than on the left. Similarly, when writing, one needs to write from right to left, rather than from left to right. This is so when the paper is turned over to expose the upward dots, the braille is in a left-to-right order. For example, to write the word "braille" on a slate, one would use: Keep in mind that this is brailled from right to left, starting with the "B"! Once you turn the paper over, the braille looks/feels like: Most braille instruction manuals show their examples for both brailleur (writer) and slate, but if you learn braille by the dot patterns, this is not necessary! Assuming you know the cells by their numbers, using a slate and stylus requires only a little practice. In addition to different size slates, there are a number of different styles. Most transcribers (as least this was true when I was transcribing!) use a desk slate. This slate comes with a wooden clipboard, which has a clamp at the top to hold the paper. The slate itself has pegs on the back, which insert into the wooden board in the corresponding holes. Once you have brailled four lines (the standard slate amount), you move the slate down to the next set of guide holes and do the next four lines. This combination of slate and guide board are excellent for the braillist who is doing a lot of braillying. Some slates come with a detachable back that can be removed so that you can read the braille without removing it from the slate. There are also correcting slates, useful for transcribers, which allow you to add missing dots on completed braille pages. There are also slates which allow you to braille on both sides of a page; this is accomplished by providing for a way to produce guideholes which can then be used to offset the page to braille the reverse side. There are also specialized slates designed for specific uses. For example, you can purchase a slate to emboss playing cards with braille so you can play bridge with your visually-impaired friends! There are also postcard-size slates, mostly with 19 cells. You can also buy a slate and styhus that comes in a six-ring pocket notbook, complete with its own holder. Styluses also come in several shapes, with different size or style of handles. For many years I used a pencil-like stylus, made of metal with a pocket clip. This stylus also had a braille eraser on the end. Braille erasers are wooden or plastic styluses, which you use to push the embossed dot back into the paper. You should note that really good braille readers can detect erased dots, so good braillists take care to avoid having to make erasures! To use a slate, follow these instructions: open the hinge like a book push the left edge of the paper squarely against the hinge slowly close the slate, letting the guide pins pierce the paper firmly. when ready to move to the next four lines, remove the paper from the slate align the top pins of the slate with the previously punctured bottom guide pins when embossing, press the stylus into the paper in as near a vertical manner as possible to ensure a clean dot (slips are easy to make, especially for beginners. If you slip, use your eraser to press the dot back into the paper) You should NOTE that the Library of Congress uses a 38-cell line, rather than a 40-cell line. This being the case, you might wish to tape off the first two cells on the right side of the slate. Alternatively, you can just start braillying in Cell 3, which is what most folks do! Back to Braille Writing Devices On to Perkins Brailleur Welcome to the home page of Judy Dixon's Collection of Braille and Tactile-writing devices. As a primary tool of literacy, the slate and stylus is a blind person's pencil with similar advantages--extremely portable, relatively low in cost, does not require batteries or electricity, and has no moving parts that can easily break. This collection presently consists of 283 unique slates and other items from 38 countries. Most Recent Slate Added to the Collection The Versa Slate from South Korea is a unique, paperless slate. It has four lines, 20 cells. You can write on the front with the integrated stylus and the braille appears on the back. I am using it to quickly jot down a phone number, for a to-do list, or just to capture an idea that is trying to fly away. Front of Versa Slate Back of Versa Slate For more information about the Versa Slate, go to 2braille.com. Acknowledgements I would like to thank the many friends and colleagues who have been so helpful in assisting me with this collection. Most particularly, I want to recognize the efforts of my good friend, Mr. Pedro Zurita, who has gathered slates on his many travels and without whose efforts this would be a much smaller collection. If you have any questions/comments about the collection or have any slates that you would like to sell/trade or otherwise part with, please contact me at judy@juddixon.net. What is a Braille Slate? Typically, a braille slate is a pocket-sized or desktop two-part hinged device. The front portion contains rows of rectangular openings which guide the stylus. The back portion has rows of indentations arranged in cells allowing the stylus to emboss dots on paper. While in this collection there are numerous slates that meet this definition, there are also slates with no hinges, slates with no pins, slates that do not write on paper, and even slates that do not produce braille. Writing on a slate is done with a stylus, consisting of a small handle made of wood or plastic with a sharp metal point. Styluses come in many shapes and sizes. In the United States, slates and styli are available from a variety of sources. The glorious variety of slates in the collection shows an enormous amount of creativity. But, unfortunately, the creativity was not always coupled with the best source of materials or production methods. Special Exhibit: Reviving the Braille Slate Are modern braille slates the best that they can be to facilitate the learning and enjoyment of writing braille by hand? I have selected twenty-five slates from the collection to illustrate slate features that I hope will be an impetus for a consideration and discussion of the redesign of braille slates. The Collection Here are the details for all the slates in the collection. They are arranged by country. Last updated: March 21, 2023 Series NavigationWhen Louis Braille invented his braille code in the 1800s he used a version of a slate and stylus to write it. This 4 line, 27 cell slate is a common tool used by individuals who are braille readers. A stylus is a pointed tool that is used to press on the slate and make the indentations for the braille. On the slate above, each hole is actually a cell with 6 indentations. Below is an enlarged view of 4 cells. When using the slate and stylus an individual writes from right to left. People often think this is hard because one has to write "backwards." In reality, this is not the case, and children and adults who use the braille code do not find using a slate and stylus any more challenging than you find using a pen and paper. Children need to have well developed motor skills to be efficient with the slate and stylus. Generally, this tool is introduced for formal writing in 3rd or 4th grade. However, young children benefit from the opportunity to use a slate and stylus. Think of this in the same way we let children use crayons and markers, well before they draw legible pictures or write letters and numbers. Another tool for writing braille is a portable note taking device. Reading and writing are huge parts of everyday life. It's easy to read things without even being aware you're reading them. Those with severe visual impairment or blindness, though, may not be able to read regular text or write with pen and paper. In that case, they may use braille.Braille is a tactile method of reading and writing. Instead of text, each letter, number, and punctuation mark is represented with a series of dots. The dots follow a predictable pattern, making braille more successful than other alternative reading and writing options. Like Western text, braille is read from left to right. Instead of reading with the eyes, the reader uses their fingers to feel the raised bumps representing each letter. The average braille reader can read braille at 125 words per minute.Louis Braille was eleven years old and studying at the National Institute of the Blind in Paris when he had the idea for the braille system. He was inspired by a French military code called "night writing". The night writing system used a twelve-dot grid to send messages that could be read silently and without light. Braille spent several years creating and refining his own six-dot grid system until it became the braille we know today.Over the years, some changes have been made to the braille system, including the addition of contractions or whole words to make the process less cumbersome.The slate and stylus for braille are writing tools. Using the slate and stylus is, in a way, the braille equivalent to writing on pen and paper. This system allows users to emboss dots on their paper by hand.The braille slate can range in size from small enough to fit in your pocket to the size of a desktop. The slate is made up of two pieces of metal or plastic connected by a hinge. When the hinge is closed, one piece rests on top of the other.The top piece consists of rows of rectangles. Each rectangle overlays a grid with six indented dots. To write using a braille slate, a piece of paper is placed between the two layers. The user then uses the stylus to create indentations within each rectangle. The size of the slate depends on how many lines the slate has and how many cells are in each line. Smaller slates may only contain a few lines, while larger slates may have several.The braille stylus has a wooden or plastic handle and a sharp metal point. The metal point is what embosses the paper to create the raised dots. Styluses may come in many sizes and handle shapes to accommodate different-sized hands.The thought of learning how to write blind in braille using a slate and stylus can sound daunting, but these tools are made so that those with visual impairment and blindness can use them easily. To use a braille slate and stylus, place a piece of paper between the two layers of the slate, pushing the paper until it lines up with the hinge. Close the top piece of the slate on top of the paper. The small rectangles on the top piece of the slate will line up with the indented six-dot grids on the bottom.When you read braille, you read the raised dots from left to right. However, when you're using a slate and stylus, you're embossing the paper from the back. This means that you have to punch the paper from the right to the left.Using the stylus, press the tip through the rectangles on the top to create the raised dots. The inside edges of the rectangles on the top piece of the slate are scalloped, and this allows the user to properly line up their stylus inside the rectangle before punching a dot.Once you've filled up the lines in your slate, you'll need to move the slate down the paper to create more lines. Beginners may have more luck with a desktop-sized slate, as it covers the entire paper.The slate and stylus system is the oldest of the braille writing systems. It's portable and allows users to write braille by hand. Over the years, though, there have been many strides made in the advancement of mechanical braille-writing tools.Braillewriters. Braillewriters, also called brailleurs, are mechanical tools similar to typewriters. Most braillewriters have a handful of keys, including a space key, a backspace key, a line feed key, along with one key for each dot in the six-dot grid. Frank H. Hall, the superintendent of the Illinois School for the Blind, invented the first widely-used braillewriter in 1892. For several decades, the Perkins School for the Blind developed several more models of braillewriters based on this design. In the 1930s, Perkins set to work designing their own braille writing machine. The prototype for the Perkins Brailleur was finished in 1941, though the school would have to wait until the end of World War II to begin mass production. This new machine was easier to use and much sturdier than the old one.The Perkins Brailleur is still in use today, now with the addition of electronic and smart braillewriters. One type of braillewriter, the Mountbatten Brailleur, is made for children and those with disabilities who have trouble hitting the keys. Modern brailleurs may have features like the ability to store files or the ability to read aloud what the user has typed.Braille Note-Taking Devices. Braille note-taking devices are smaller and more portable. They are typically a type of portable computer with a braille keyboard that allows users to type but not necessarily to print on paper. Some types of braille note-taking devices include features like:A display screenA QWERTY keyboard in addition to a braille keyboardInternet accessScreen-reading softwareMedia playersRecording applicationsGPSStill, although mechanical braille-writing technology has many perks, the slate and stylus remain in use all over the world. The convenience and portability of the slate and stylus makes it easy to carry around, so it's unlikely this method of braille writing will go anywhere anytime soon.