

The iPhone: A Revolutionary Invention

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Individual Documentary

Process Paper:

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The iPhone: A Revolutionary Invention is my selected topic because I wanted to present on a technology that was a turning point in the history of phones. Like the historic moment on March 10, 1876 when Alexander Graham Bell made the first phone call in history, Steve Jobs, on January 9, 2007, made the first phone call on the iPhone, altering how we communicate today. I chose the creation of the first iPhone because of its impact on the world and technology by completely reinventing the phone through incorporating touch screens, keyless keyboards, a camera, and access to the internet all into one device.

I found many interesting pictures and facts about the phone throughout the last century. From the original rotary landline phones, to the bulky car phones, then the first boxy wireless phones, the flip phone, the Blackberry, these were all building blocks towards the creation of the first iPhone in 2007.

One important primary source about the iPhone was the YouTube video by The Wall Street Journal called *Apple's Secret iPhone Launch Team: The Event That Began It All*. It was a key source because it contained interviews from Greg Christie, Tony Fadell, and Scott Forstall, the original design team members of the iPhone. They explained what it was like creating the device. Another useful source was the video by Protectstar Inc. called *iPhone 1 - Steve Jobs MacWorld Keynote in 2007 - Full Presentation, 80 mins*. It included the entire presentation of Jobs introducing the iPhone, which I used clips in my documentary.

I chose to create a documentary because a history on the iPhone has many primary sources including excellent photos and videos. Additionally, I was interested in learning more about video editing, and that was something unfamiliar to me. I used CapCut to create my documentary by adding online videos and photos.

My thesis statement states: The invention of the first iPhone was a turning point in not only technology, but the way we communicate, and altering the purpose and utilization of phones. Through new features to the phone including a full screen design and touch screen technology, it was easy to call or text, read the news online, watch a movie, or listen to music.

This topic is a key turning point in history because in less than 20 years it has had significant impact on how everyone communicates. The iPhone not only changed how we think of and use the phone, but it also changed the way we live our lives. The iPhone had some unintended societal impacts by changing how people interact with each other. It also changed the way we consume information because of the popularity of social media. It forced industries such as print media and entertainment to evolve and change. We have already seen the iPhone's impact on more than just technology, and it will continue to do so in the future as a turning point in history.

Annotated Bibliography—Lucy Ko

Primary Sources:

“Apple’s Secret iPhone Launch Team: The Event That Began It All.” YouTube, uploaded by

The Wall Street Journal, 29 June 2017,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xxBc1c3uAJw>. Accessed 8 March 2024.

In this source I found great interviews from people who worked on the first iPhone, and what the design process was like for the demo phone. It added to my project because I was able to get some good primary sources interviews from the people who experienced what it was like to build the first iPhone, and I used these interviews during my main event in the documentary.

German, Kent. “Look Back at CNET's Original iPhone Review.” *CNET*, 29 June

2022, <https://www.cnet.com/tech/mobile/original-iphone-review/>. Accessed 5 February 2024.

In this source I was able to find a re-print of the original 2007 review, and detailed information about the innovative design. It added good information to my project about how important the first iPhone was to phone history, and I used clips of the video review in this website during my main event.

Graham Bell, Alexander. “Lab Notebook March 10, 1876.” *American Treasures of the Library*

of Congress, <https://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=am-reas&fileName=trr002page.db&recNum=21&itemLink=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.loc.gov%2Fexhibits%2Ftreasures%2Ftrr002.html&linkText=9>. Accessed 12 May 2024.

In this source I found pictures of Alexander Graham Bell's original journal entry on March, 10, 1876 talking about his invention of the telephone. This added to my project because I used it in my documentary when talking about his invention.

"iPhone 1 - Steve Jobs MacWorld keynote in 2007 - Full Presentation, 80 mins."

YouTube, uploaded by Protectstar Inc., 6 May 2013,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQKMoT-6XSg>. Accessed 3 March 2024.

In this source I found the whole presentation of Steve Jobs introducing the first iPhone in January 2007. It added to my project because I used different clips from this video in my project all throughout, but mostly in the main event.

Library of Congress, Chronicling America, "How Professor Bell Invented the Telephone"

The San Francisco call. July 09, 1899,
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85066387/1899-07-09/ed-1/seq-22/>.

Accessed 6 May 2024.

In this source I found a picture of an original newspaper article from the 1890s that had a description of Alexander Graham Bell inventing the revolutionary telephone. It added

to my project, because being able to see such a primary source close to the time of this revolutionary invention is really helpful.

Library of Congress, Chronicling America, "[Audible Speech Conveyed Two Miles by Telegraph](#)"

Arizona Citizen (Tuscon, Pima County, AZ) November 18, 1876, Page 4, Image 4, col. 3.

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn82014896/1876-11-18/ed-1/seq-4/#words=Philadelphia+Bell+Telephones+Alexander>. Accessed 6 May 2024.

Here is a newspaper article from the same year as the invention by Alexander Graham Bell describing the call between him and Thomas Watson in Boston. It added to my project because it provided details about the invention.

"USD618677S1 - Electronic device." *Google Patents*,

<https://patents.google.com/patent/USD618677S1/en>. Accessed 13 May 2024.

In this source I found the original patents for the first iPhone, and it was such a useful primary source because it is the original design. It added to my project because I used pictures of some of these patents in my documentary.

Secondary Sources:

Bliss, Daniel. "The First Mobile Phone Call Was Made 75 Years Ago." *Smithsonian Magazine*,

16 June 2021, <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/innovation/first-mobile-phone-call-was-made-75-years-ago-180978003/>. Accessed 6 May 2024.

In this source I found some great history on the evolution of the cell phone starting from the early 1940s till today. It added to my project because it provided more background information about the phone history, to be able to show why the iPhone was so different.

Daley, Jason. "What Tech Writers Said About the iPhone When It Debuted Ten Years Ago." *Smithsonian Magazine*, 9 January 2017,

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/what-tech-writers-thought-about-iphone-when-it-debuted-10-years-ago-180961728/>. Accessed 5 February 2024.

In this source I was able to find what tech writers had said when the iPhone first came out. It was helpful for my project because I learned that many writers had believed the iPhone would fail, and I used some of the quotes in this website when discussing the portion on iPhone impact in my documentary.

Gautam, Vanya. "Not Steve Jobs Or Tim Cook, This Man Was The First CEO Of

Apple." *IndiaTimes*, 6 February 2023, <https://www.indiatimes.com/worth/news/first-ceo-of-apple-michael-scott-592288.html>. Accessed 6 February 2024.

In this source there was useful information about everyone who was CEO before Steve Jobs for Apple and gave me great background information for what Apple was like before Jobs was CEO. It added to my project because I was able to add valuable information about what Apple was like before Steve Jobs as the CEO.

Grundy, Adam, "Service Annual Survey Shows Continuing Decline in Print Publishing Revenue"

June 7, 2022, <https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2022/06/internet-crushes-traditional-media.html>. Accessed 13 May 2024.

This source shows the decline of print media from 2002 to 2020 in newspaper, magazines, and video rentals because of the internet. This helped me understand and show data on the impact of the iPhone and its technology on society.

Hristov, Victor. "These were the best phones... before the iPhone." *PhoneArena*, 29 June

2017, https://www.phonearena.com/news/These-were-the-best-phones...-before-the-iPhone_id95512. Accessed 7 February 2024.

This source had great information about what were the top phones before the iPhone, and what you could do on these phones. It added so much to my project because I was able to explain more about why the iPhone was so different than anything at the time, and I used this information during my background part in the documentary.

Isaacson, Walter. "The Real Leadership Lessons of Steve Jobs." *Harvard Business Review*,

April 2012, <https://hbr.org/2012/04/the-real-leadership-lessons-of-steve-jobs>. Accessed 1 February 2024.

In this source I was able to find key information about the leadership that Steve Jobs showed when working for Apple, and the history of Apple and the iPhone. This source added to my project because it helped me understand more about what Jobs did for the company, and how he was so important to the success of Apple.

McCall, Iain. "Timeline of Apple Product Launches." *4D Products*, 30 September 2019, <https://4dproducts.co.uk/timeline-of-apple-product-launches/>. Accessed 6 February 2024.

In this source I found a great timeline of the big Apple products before and after the iPhone. It added to my project because I was able to include the successful Apple products before the iPhone in the background part of the documentary.

Mohamed, Youssef. "Steve Jobs's Return to Apple in 1997! | by Youssef Mohamed | Mac O'Clock." *Medium*, 30 August 2023, <https://medium.com/macoclock/steve-jobss-return-to-apple-in-1997-87e553a5d10d>. Accessed 7 February 2024.

In this source I learned about when and why Steve Jobs left Apple, and about how his return to Apple saved the company. It added to my project because it gave me useful numbers from how much Apple had made before Steve Jobs left, and after he left showing how much he did for the company which I used when talking about the background in my project.

Molla, Rani. "How Apple's iPhone changed the world: 10 years in 10 charts." *Vox*, 26 June 2017, <https://www.vox.com/2017/6/26/15821652/iphone-apple-10-year-anniversary-launch-mobile-stats-smart-phone-steve-jobs>. Accessed 5 February 2024.

In this source, it shared 10 different ways that the iPhone changed the world in just 10 years. It was helpful to my project because it shared new things that the iPhone had, and I used information that I found on this website during the impact part of my project.

Parikh, Mohit. "How iPhone Got Invented." *Engineers*

Garage, <https://www.engineersgarage.com/how-iphone-got-invented/>. Accessed 2 February 2024.

In this source I found lots of useful information about how the iPhone was invented, and the new features included in the new phone. This source added to my project, because it compared the iPhone to other phones that were sold at the time and showed the differences between them.

Silver, Stephen. "The story of the original iPhone, that nobody thought was

possible." *AppleInsider*, 29 June 2018, <https://appleinsider.com/articles/18/06/29/the-story-of-the-original-iphone-that-nobody-thought-was-possible>. Accessed 5 February 2024.

This source had useful information about before the iPhone, first reactions to the phone, and its legacy. It was helpful for my project because it helped me understand the whole timeline of the first iPhone, and how people reacted to it at first.

Sullivan, Mark. "10 Of The Most Interesting Reactions To The First iPhone Back In 2007."

Fast Company, 28 June 2017, <https://www.fastcompany.com/40436054/10-of-the-most-interesting-reactions-to-the-first-iphone-back-in-2007>. Accessed 5 February 2024.

This source had honest reviews of the iPhone when it was first released. This added information to my project about what critics had thought about the iPhone, and how they thought it would compare to other phones on the market.

Taneja, Akhil. "How iPhone Revolutionized The Smartphone Industry." *Cashify*, 10 March 2023, <https://www.cashify.in/iphone-revolution-in-smartphone-industry>. Accessed 7 February 2024.

In this source I found lots of useful information about how the iPhone was so impactful to the world, and comparing the first iPhone to the most recent iPhones showing what is similar and different. It added to my project because it helped me fully understand exactly how impactful the iPhone was to everyone.

Tocci, Meghan. "Smartphone History - The First Smartphone." *SimpleTexting*, 13 January 2023, <https://simpletexting.com/blog/where-have-we-come-since-the-first-smartphone/>. Accessed 2 February 2024.

In this source I found a good timeline about what phones were like before the iPhone, and what you could do on them. This source is helpful for my project because it gave me good background information about phones before, and how new and futuristic the iPhone was compared to other phones.

Woyke, Elizabeth. *The Smartphone: Anatomy of an Industry*. New Press, 2014.

In this book I found lots of information on the phone history from the first commercial Motorola DynaTAC phone, to the iPhone, it did a good job showing what phones were like before 2007. It added to my project because it made it easier for me to talk about why this new phone was so unique, and what phones had been like in the past.