

**Describe an invention that is useful in your daily life (有用的日常发明)**

**You should say**

**What the invention was**

**What it can do**

**How popular it is**

**And explain whether it is difficult or easy to use.**

**知识点:**

**相关表达:**

- **gadgets** 小装置、小发明
- **life-changing** 改变生活的; **a life-changer** 改变生活的事物或人
- **game-changing** 改变生活的 (同上); **game-changer** 同上
- **life-saving** 拯救生活的; **life-saver** 拯救生活的事物或人
- **irreplaceable** 不可替代的
- **I can't imagine my life without it!** 想象不出来生活里没有它会怎样。
- **functions and features** 功能与特点 (特点往往是突出性能的卖点)
- **State-of-the-art technology/ Advanced technology/ Cutting-edge solutions** 最最前沿的科技、解决方案
- **Revolutionary technology** 革命性的科技
- **household appliances and electronics** 家用电器
- **ancient times** 古时候
- **back in the old days** 同上
- **brighter than a bulb** 聪明得像电灯泡一样

**Jon is brighter than a bulb. I'm not surprised he invented that.**

- **sharper than a pencil** 比铅笔还尖 同上
- **ahead of his/her time** 走在时间前面

Thomas Edison was way ahead of his time! If only he could see the fruition of his invention today (要是他能看到自己的发明如今结下的果实该多好) .

- The internet has accomplished amazing things in more areas of life than we realize.
- The internet brings knowledge and information of the world to our fingertips (把知识和信息带到我们的指尖) .
- This laid the foundation work for another revolutionary invention, which is...  
这个发明给另外一个革命性的发明奠定了基础

#### 素材一 (网络) :

There're so many amazing and life-changing (改变生活的) inventions in our lives. And the one I want to talk about today is: the internet.

It was invented in the 90s, in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. And ever since then, it has been bringing accumulated knowledge (累积的大量知识) and information to our fingertips (指尖) . And it also has changed the way we live dramatically.

Regarding how popular it is and how difficult it is to use it, well, it's so popular that I don't know anybody who doesn't use it except for those 80,90-year-old grandmas and grandpas. I mean, it's so easy to use and so irreplaceable (不可替代) in our day-to-day life (我们的每日生活) .

In terms of what it can do, well, you can use the internet to do some many things, more than you could ever imagine. (以下关于网络的功能的内容不用都说, 太多啦! )

Some people, especially the young use it for educational purposes. I do it all the time. I'm a big fan of online education. The internet allows education to take place anywhere and anytime. You don't have to go to physical classes (实体班级) anymore, you can just turn on the computer, get online and learn like a sponge (像海绵一样学习) ! There're all kinds of

online courses (线上课, 就像 tara 老师我的课, 哈哈) that are much more affordable and free online information accessible (可以方便获取的) .

And then, we use the internet for shopping. E-commerce is a big deal nowadays (电子商务是件大事儿) . Back in the old days (曾经的岁月里), people used to spend a lot of time going to different shops and stores, checking products, and making decisions on what to buy. Shopping was a decision that was thought through (精心考虑过的) . But now, there're endless sites (网站) from which you can get information and buy the latest brands online. You just need to browse and click (浏览和点击) , and things will be delivered to your door! It's too easy. Therefore, impulsive shopping (冲动购物) is unavoidable (不可避免的) . (时间分层)

And what else, we use the internet to connect with one another (连接彼此) . The internet laid the foundation work for another revolutionary invention, which is social media (自媒体) . Social media indeed has changed our personal space, the way we interact with our loved ones (我们的爱人) , our friends and family, and even with strangers online. We rely heavily on (深度依赖) the internet to connect with people, communicate with each other, and network with new people. Face to face communication (面对面交流) is still relevant (重要的, 存在的) , but sometimes it seems that people prefer to check in with each other (关心、询问彼此) online in this fast-paced modern time. It's less time and less effort. We're getting lazy on socializing with people.

还有很多其他的影响, 比如 **for entertainment, for work, for doing business...**

So, yeh, that's the invention I'd like to talk about today. Thank you!

素材二 (健康手环) :

Today, I want to share with you a game-changer in the fitness world (在健身的世界里) : the fitness band (健康手环) .

I personally love my band and I can't imagine my life without it! And it's been very trendy (流行) among all of my circle of friends. I also see a lot of people on the street wearing it. They're available in various brands (很多品牌都有出健身手环) , like Adidas, Nike. But when it comes to functions and features, they're all more or less the same (大同小异) . Health enthusiasts (健康狂人) , fitness freaks (健身狂人) , and those who want to have a healthier lifestyle have all jumped on the bandwagon (随大流, 跟风) .

Using a fitness band is easy peasy (简单) . Simply put it on your wrist (带到手腕上) , sync it with your smartphone (和智能手机同步) , just a few taps and swipes (点一点, 刷一刷) and you're good to go (你就可以上路了, 用起来! 走起! 常见句型) . Most bands come with (自带) user-friendly apps (使用很简单的 app) that provide a simple and clear interface (简单又清晰的互动界面) for you to access all the data it collects (获得所有收集的数据) . You don't need to be tech-savvy (高科技小达人) to use it.

One of the most impressive features (亮点) of a fitness band is its sleep tracker (记录睡眠的功能) . It can monitor your sleep patterns (监督你的睡眠周期) , analyzing the quality of your sleep (分析你的睡眠质量) . It helps you understand if you're getting enough deep sleep (深度睡眠) or if you're tossing and turning (辗转反侧) too much during the night. With the information, you can make adjustments (调整) to improve your sleep quality.

My fitness band also has a built-in heart rate monitor (心率监控器) , which is a really important function for me as I work out regularly. I need to constantly keep track of my heart rate (追踪我的心率) to make sure that I'm exercising the right way. It's like having a personal trainer (私教) , reminding you to push harder (再加把劲儿) or take it easy (悠着点儿) when necessary.

And on those day when I want to keep an eye on my weight (在那些我比较留意自己的体重的日子里), I rely on its "daily burned calorie" function (每日卡路里消耗) to make adjustments on what to eat and what exercise I need to do. Plus, it also counts my steps (计步) per day, so on those days when I don't reach my "step-counting goal", I'll do something extra, like a jog or a 10 mins work-out, to hit the target (完成目标). It really keeps me motivated (让我保持动力). When I reach my daily goal, I even get a little trophy in the app (有个小奖杯), and all my friends who are on that app can also see it, which is so fun.

So yeh, I love my band. And I can't imagine my life without it!! Thank you!

### Part3:

#### 1. What qualities do inventors have?

Well, firstly, many people don't talk about this, but I think inventors are (air quote 空气引号) "lazy people" who see things not working properly and therefore want to make life easier and better. They always want to find the path of least resistance (找到最小阻力, 走捷径). So, they use their problem-solving skills (解决问题能力) to invent things that can change our lives. And also, they have a strong sense of creativity (创造能力). They have the ability to think outside the box (发散思维, 想到与众不同的点子) and come up with different and unique ideas and solutions (提出不同的解决方案). And what else, inventors are most likely curious people. They have this strong sense of curiosity that inspires them to constantly explore and discover new things. They are all the time asking questions, seeking answers, and looking for solutions. And of course, if you want to be able to invent something wonderful, you have to spend years, really knuckle down (认真工作) and throw yourself in the mission (全力以赴). So perseverance (坚韧) is another valuable quality because they often face challenges and failures along the way (一路走来). Not giving up, keep trying and believing themselves are all essential traits (优点). (罗列)

#### 2. Do you think only scientists can invent new things?

No, not at all. Even though scientists are the main contributors (主要贡献者) in the realm of invention, still inventing new things is not just limited to (不仅限于) scientists. Actually, it can come from anybody, you and me, even kids. Actually, I know there are many kids who have invented super

cool and unique things. And I guess they are at an age where they are learning new things every day, and they are curious and full of imagination. They are very passionate about the idea of inventing things and changing the world. So actually, kids can contribute a lot to the world of invention. (主流现象, 自己独立观点)

### 3. What inventions do you think should be improved?

One thing I can think of is the smartphone batteries. I mean, how hard can it be to come up with a solution to extend the battery life (延长电池使蓄电能力)?! I mean, I'm so fed up with (受够了) having to charge my phone constantly all the time. In a time like this with all cutting-edge technologies (前沿科技) everywhere, how come we're still so frustrated with tiny problems like this? And also, home appliances (家用电器), that's another thing. Some of them are so difficult to use and it's super unnecessary. I really think there needs to be improvements in home appliances on the whole (总体), such as a smarter and more intuitive interface (更加智能+直觉简单型界面), energy efficiency solutions, and easier maintenance. For example, I've just bought a new cooking machine, and I still haven't fully figured out how to make the most of it (最大程度利用好它). (罗列)

### 4. Are there any other inventions that make the world better?

Wow, there are so many. I don't even know where to start. To name a few (简单举几个例子), in the medical world, vaccines. That's like the best invention ever in the 20th century. And then for entertainment, TV, radio, DVD players, the internet, live-stream platforms, people have so many ways to get entertained. And for transportation, cars, airplanes, the list just goes on (说都说不完). I'm so grateful to be able to live in a time like this where I have so many wonderful inventions to make my life so much easier and better. (罗列 列举)

### 5. Do all the inventions bring benefits to our world?

Definitely not. Every coin has two sides (凡事都有两面性), even with inventions. The first thing comes to mind is the environmental impact. Some inventions definitely can bring damages to the natural world. For example, transportation tools like cars, ships and airplanes. They collectively emit a huge amount of greenhouse gases (释放大量温室气体) which the main reason that causes global warming (全球变暖). And also, social and psychological impact. Some inventions really can negatively

affect people's mental health, such as social media. The prevalence of social media (社交媒体的盛行) also leads to cyber bullying and trolling (网络霸凌), which is such a huge issue nowadays, especially among young people. (罗列)

6. Who should support and sponsor inventors? Governments or private companies?

I would say both. Governments make the necessary policy and provide funding, while private companies bring industry expertise, and market resources. For governments, they can set up scholarships, funding programs (建立奖学金、基金项目) to sponsor and support inventors, create policies that promote innovation. Governments can also support educational programs for young people to foster creativity and innovation. And then, for private companies, they can invest in innovation activities, bring in expertise (带来专家支持), and provide access to marketing networks (提供市场渠道). This is a win-win situation (双赢局面) for both companies and inventors. (分类、分角色讨论)

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