

THE HISTORY OF ANIMATION FROM 1824 TO THE PRESENT

INTRODUCTION:

Unlike many arts, animation isn't something that has grown organically from the beginning of time. If you trace the history of _____ for instance, you can look back to Neanderthal man and see his _____ on cave walls. Animation, on the other hand, is an art form that evolved out of _____ first. People had to understand how series of pictures _____ in succession to give the illusion of _____ and then create the machinery to do that before they could even think about creating cartoon _____. Even though ancient man had paper, _____ and all of the items to make a machine that would project an image or create a _____, they didn't – simply because before 1824 it never occurred to anyone to do that.



characters and movies / motion / could be flashed quickly / flipbook / science / pencils / painting / soot and earth drawings

I. The Age of Discovery

For all intents and purposes, the history of animation starts in 1824 with Peter Roget's observation that images that flash by very quickly somehow manage to stick in people's brains and if you watch a lot of these images flash by in a row it gives the illusion of motion. Between 1824 and 1875 animation wasn't an art or an entertainment, it was a scientific oddity of interest only to a few individuals interested in optical illusions. The machinery invented at the time wasn't invented to entertain, but to demonstrate scientific concepts. To the surprise of scientists, people enjoyed looking at the demonstrations and animation became a home parlour entertainment for the scientific-minded upper classes.



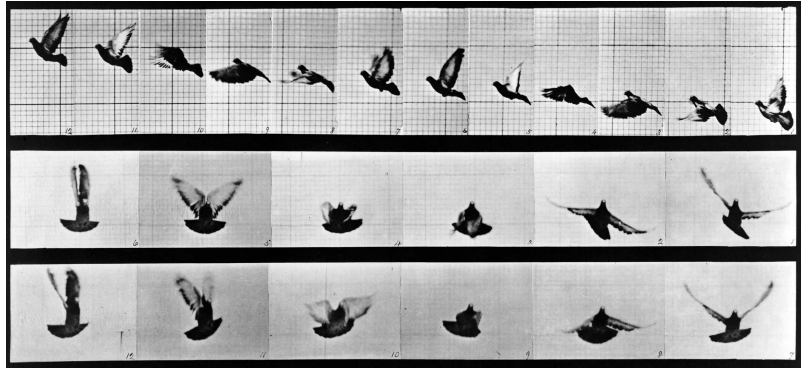
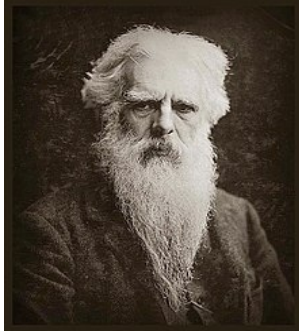
Phenakitstoscope

- A phenakitstoscope produced an illusion of movement by allowing a viewer to gaze at a rotating disk containing small windows
- When the disks were rotated at the correct speed, the synchronization of the windows with the images created an animated effect.

In 1831, Dr. Joseph Antoine Plateau (a Belgian scientist) and Dr. Simon Ritterer constructed a machine called a phenakitstoscope.



In 1872, Eadweard Muybridge started his photographic series examining the positions of animals in motion.



YOUR MISSION:

1. Explain the reason why the art of ANIMATION is different from all other types of art. Be precise.
2. What is a flipbook?
3. The first age of animation is called :
It started in _____ and lasted for _____ years.
4. What did Peter Roget discover?
5. How was ANIMATION considered at that time? Who was mostly interested in it?
6. How did the upper classes react to the scientific discoveries?
7. Make research on the PHENAKITSTOSCOPE and explain in your own words how it functions.
8. Who was Eadweard Muybridge? What was he interested in?