

Printing Transforms Knowledge
James Burke: The Day The Universe Changed: Matter of Fact
Teacher's Guide

Before viewing, explain to students that James Burke, the host of the documentary, is British. His accent and his use of British expressions might take a few minutes of adjustment.

Explain that this documentary was made for a scholarly audience and their being in this course qualifies them as scholars learning the information at this high level.

Tell students that you will be explaining some information before viewing sections of the film and that they will have a study guide and are required to fill in the blanks as they hear the information.

I. Part One

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7NGp4mdDKb4&feature=Playlist&p=OC234652E448BA86&index=0&playnext=1>

Before viewing, tell students...

They will see James Burke land by helicopter at a farming estate. He will explain that today we trust other people's knowledge for things we use daily, such as the helicopter. We don't question the helicopter. We trust that it will fly and land. Today we use machines and technology invented by someone else; we don't have to develop it ourselves.

But...

Life was not always like that. Before the fifteenth century, most people spent their whole lives never going farther than seven miles from their home and had to rely on themselves and those around them for total survival.

This documentary is about how this all changed...

500 years ago something happened that allowed a sharing of the minds on a large scale for the first time. No longer were you reliant on just yourself and those around you for survival.

James Burke will "transport" us back and forth in time. The first time we are transported back to a reenactment of the year 1450 is when a truck drives away and reveals a world where everything depended on direct personal experience. *(Make sure students understand that when we "go back in time," these are actors portraying what historians think life was like. No filming was available back then.)*

Tell students that when Part One is over, you will go over the study guide answers and that they will be quizzed on this part of the study guide at the beginning of the next class session.

II. III. Parts Two and Three

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lumD7rzBGVM&feature=PlayList&p=4324DE52DA58DA66&playnext=1&playnext_from=PL&index=1

and

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5CB4nASyVM&feature=PlayList&p=4324DE52DA58DA66&playnext=1&playnext_from=PL&index=2

Before viewing, tell students...

Today you will see a re-enactment of monks writing and creating "ILLUMINATIONS" (decorations of a book with painted designs) with "GOLD LEAF" (very thin foil for adding a coating of gold).

You will see that "MANUSCRIPTS" ("written by hand") were not stored in any organized way.

You will learn of a devastating illness "The Black Death" that changed the economy in Europe and increased the need for written records.

You'll learn about the "INDULGENCE"... an IOU for bad behavior.
You'll learn about a goldsmith from the town of Mintz who showed up at a German fair in the wrong year, lost his partners lots of money, and in an effort to pay them back, went forward with a secret invention that changed the world forever.

And you will learn about the first celebrity, who never intended to be a celebrity. He just planned to share his views about the church with a few people.

Be aware that when James Burke rides to town in an old van, he is talking about the 15th century, but what you see is present day.

Tell students that when Parts Two and Three are over, you will go over the study guide answers and that they will be quizzed on these parts of the study guide at the beginning of the next class session.

IV. V. Parts Four and Five

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KcXqvPaM1Vg>

and

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BTG5jRA2Myw>

Before viewing, tell students...

Today's sections will bring us back to a theme that runs throughout the Lights, Camera, Media Literacy! course...

With most of our knowledge no longer being first hand and our being reliant on various forms of media, how do we choose what to trust as fact?

Tell students that when Parts Four and Five are over, you will go over the study guide answers and that they will be quizzed on these parts of the study guide, as well as how they tie to the rest of the documentary at the beginning of the next class session.