

# **CLICK, CLACK, TYPE!**

## **The Story of the Typewriter**

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A **typewriter** is a machine that prints letters onto paper when you press keys.

Before computers and iPads, people used typewriters to:

- Write letters
  - Keep records
  - Do schoolwork
  - Run businesses
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### **When Was It Invented?**

- The first useful typewriters were made in the **1870s**
  - Early inventors included **Christopher Sholes** and his partners
  - The keyboard layout is called **QWERTY**—and we still use it today!
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### **Why Were Typewriters Important?**

Typewriters helped people:

- Write **neatly and clearly**
- Work **faster than handwriting**
- Make **copies of documents**

This made them very important for businesses and schools.

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### **Typewriters in Small Towns**

In places like Nemaha County, typewriters were used to:

- Keep farm and store records
- Write letters to customers and family
- Create school and church documents
- Print local news

A typewriter helped one person do the work of a whole office!

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## Then and Now

### Then (Typewriter)

Press hard keys

No delete key!

Paper copies

Slower typing

### Now (Computer/iPad)

Tap lightly

Easy editing

Digital files

Faster typing

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## TRY IT YOURSELF!

At the station, can you:

- Type your name?
  - Type a short sentence?
  - Hear the “click, clack” sounds?
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## Fun Facts!

- Typewriters didn’t need electricity
  - They were strong and lasted a long time
  - People still used them even after computers were invented
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## Think About It...

- What happens if you make a mistake?
  - Would you rather use a typewriter or a computer?
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## Remember:

The typewriter helped people write faster, stay organized, and run businesses—even in small towns like ours!