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SAMPLE

## Ideas on the Rise

It has all the makings of a bad movie. The setting is more than 2,250 years ago in **ancient Greece**. A bunch of **philosophers** are sitting around, talking about mythology, art, and music. Then the famous mathematician Archimedes steps off an elevator and joins them.

Wait just a minute! An elevator – in ancient Greece? Back then people were just figuring out how **levers** worked. Why would anyone think that the ancient Greeks had elevators?

Well, it's because they did. Back in 230 **b.c.**, Archimedes designed a working elevator that could lift a person using ropes and pulleys. Who knew that the elevator was invented more than 2,000 years ago?



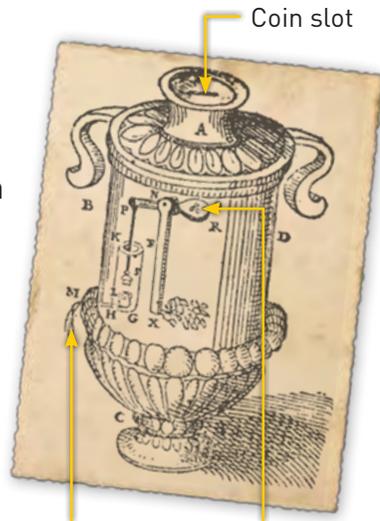
↑ Archimedes is considered to be one of the greatest thinkers of all time.

↓ It might seem normal to you, but an elevator was a pretty amazing idea more than 2,000 years ago!



## Vending Machines

Take something you see every day, such as a vending machine. Supposedly, these were invented in the 1880s in England to dispense postcards and books. This is only partly correct. It was really Hero of Alexandria who invented a basic vending machine more than 2,000 years ago in order for Egyptian temples to easily dispense holy water.



Spout where the water flows out      Lever upon which the coin lands

At the time, no one really wanted to build a complicated machine to do the work that one person could do in a few minutes. Hero's vending machine was a great idea, but the world wasn't ready for it yet!

⚡ It took 2,000 years for Hero's vending machine idea to really catch on!



## That's Entertainment!

### Portable Media Players

**Inventions** are nothing new. In fact, ever since people first walked the planet, they have invented things to make life easier, safer, or more comfortable. Sometimes, though, people invent things just for convenience or entertainment.

Now, when people want to listen to music or watch any kind of video, they reach for portable media players that have massive amounts of memory and can be used everywhere. These tiny, easy-to-use machines are at the height of modern **technology** – right?

