

# TOP TEN SIMPLE IDEAS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD.

## DEMOCRACY

People make up a state, people should have a voice in it. Pretty simple.



## MARRIAGE

Credit most ancient societies for a simple way to create a secure environment for the perpetuation of the species.



## NUMBERS

A bone dated 30,000 BC was found with a series of notches carved into it. A simple tally that ended up as calculus.



## MAPMAKING

"Where the hell are we?" was first asked by the Babylonians, who carved settlements and rivers into clay tablets.

## WRITING

Written language came from societies built on grain, who recorded crops with simple symbols pressed in clay. Some of the oldest were developed to keep track of beer. Mmm.



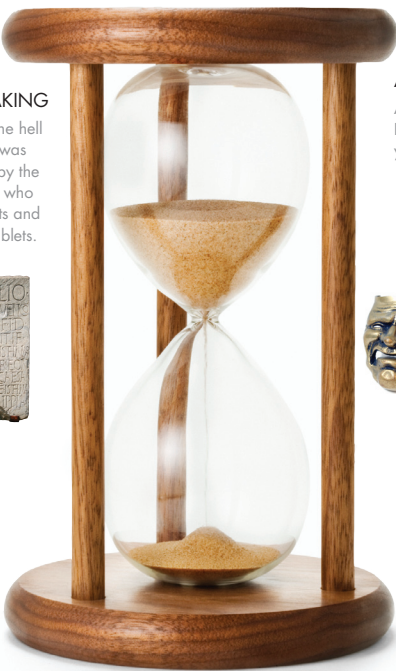
## ART

A piece of charcoal produced Rembrandt 20,000 years later.



## LAW

Separating right from wrong drove many early cultures to create simple rules, the basis of our legal system today.



## TIMEKEEPING

The ancient Egyptians started it all with sundials that cast a shadow they marked into units.

## STORYTELLING

No one knows how far back sharing our experiences goes, but it lead to Shakespeare, Dickens and...Stephen King.



## GOD

The simple idea that there is a Supreme Being exists in virtually all cultures. It gets pretty complicated after that.



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