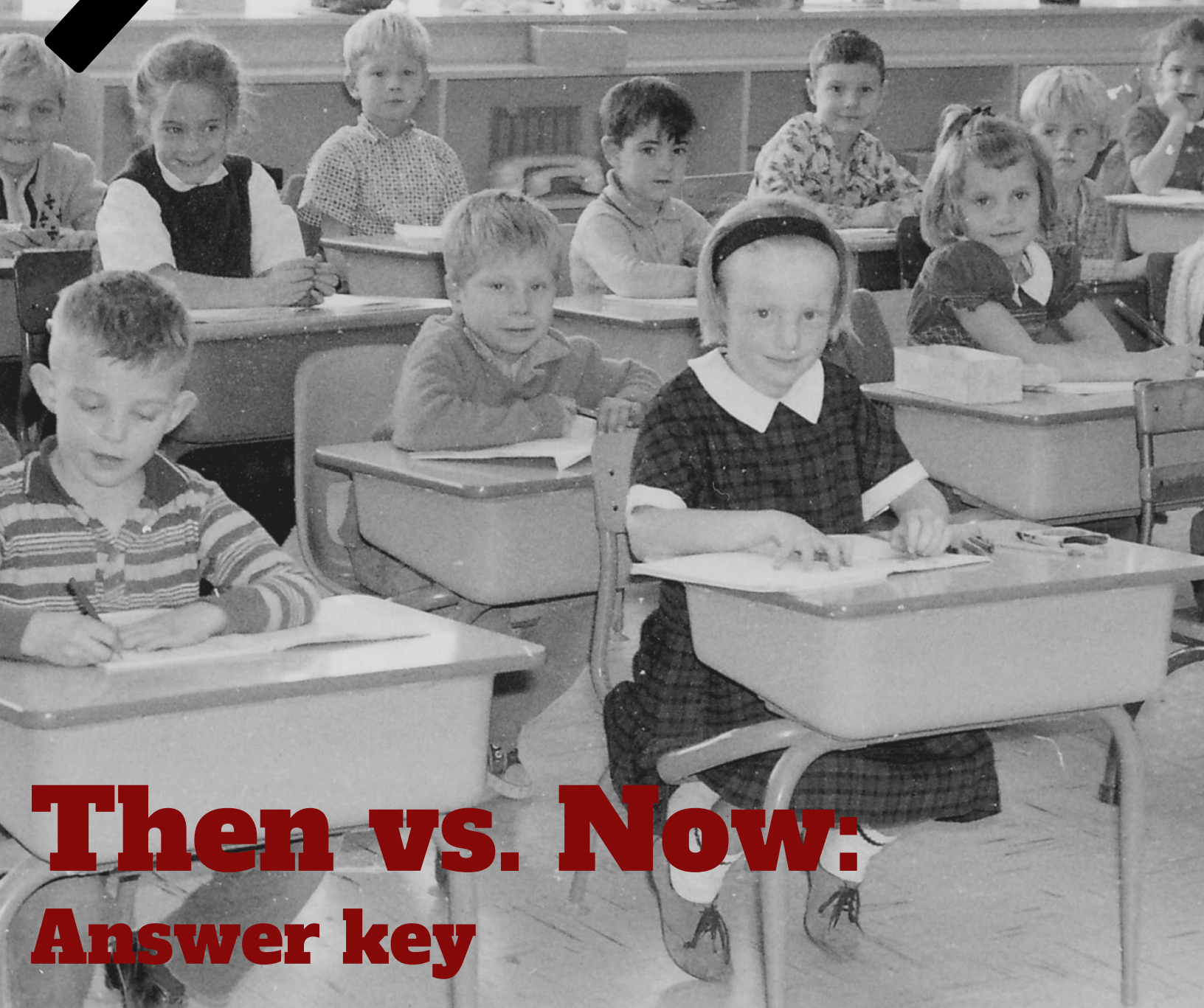




MAPLE RIDGE
MUSEUM

& COMMUNITY ARCHIVES

Heritage Detectives



Then vs. Now:
Answer key

Answer Key



The comptometer, patented in 1887, was the first commercially successful mechanical calculator and required specialized training to operate. The 1970s marked the end of the comptometers relevance as electric calculators and computers began to take over the market.



Single-blade razors were introduced in late 17th century and remained one of the most popular methods of shaving until the mid-20th century. Razors used today have safety features which provide a buffer between blade and skin making the user less likely to cut themselves.



This cabinet gramophone was purchased by the original owner in 1921. Songs were played via records which could carry a limited amount of songs. This differs greatly from music players today, where an unlimited amount of songs can be played from our phones, tablets, laptops, bluetooth speakers and other electronic devices!



Washboards became popular in the 19th century as a way to more effectively clean laundry. The user would fill a tub with soap and water and vigorously rub their laundry against the washboard to clean it. This once back-breaking activity bears little resemblance to the washing machines of today, which simply require the press of a button.



After World War II, vacuums became more affordable and common. While there are many types of vacuums, as you see, their appearance hasn't changed too much over time. The difference now is that they perform better and even have cordless options.



Cellphones today can call people across the world, take pictures, play music and access the internet, all while being cordless. When this phone was initially used, it could not call long distance and the phone number only had 3 digits.



Typewriters were invented to create a quicker way to write documents than handwriting which would also improve legibility. Computers, keyboards, and laptops still have the same QWERTY format as original typewriters, except now with the convenience of the backspace button.



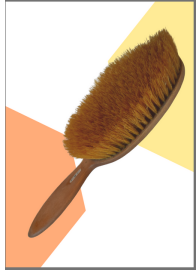
Rollerskates were invented in 1863, and feature two pairs of wheels on either side of the skate. This pair from the 1960s would be used by strapping the skates to the user's shoes. Nowadays, rollerblades are more common and the main difference is that the wheels form one line in the middle.



This 1950s Kodak folding camera could fold back into a slim protected case that made it great for outdoor photography. Camera's today of course come with many more functions, such as automatic focus, LCD screens, and digital storage instead of film.



Pocket watches were invented in the early 1500s and allowed people to be able to tell the time regardless of where they were. Pocket watches had a chain, which would attach to a belt loop or waistcoat, ensuring that it wouldn't fall out. They would be eclipsed by wrist watches after World War I which offered more practicality.



The earliest patent for a modern hair brush was filed in 1854. They are used to smooth, style and untangle hair. Before the widespread use of plastic, the bristles and the handle would have been made out of natural materials such as animal hair for the bristles and ivory or wood for the handle.



The patent for a curling iron was issued in 1866. These curling irons would have been heated over a flame before being used. Unlike today's curling iron, styling your hair had a dangerous edge as there was little ability to control the temperature of these irons making burns common.



This eggbeater from 1903 was operated by cranking the handle. This appliance made whisking quicker and reduced physical exertion for the user. Of course today, eggbeaters are now electrical, further simplifying the process.



This trunk suitcase would have been top of the line for its day, with multiple drawers and compartments to keep all of ones clothes organized. Today, suitcases are smaller, lightweight, and typically have wheels in order to make them easier to manage and fit airline size requirements.



This particular type of iron is called a flat iron and was used by holding the bottom of the iron over a fire until it was heated enough to remove wrinkles. While the form of irons has not changed to much, modern irons now are electrically heated for consistent results, and can even inject steam to help remove wrinkles.