

Name _____

The Magical Impact of Paper and Printing in Ancient China

Short Answer Key

1. The invention of paper democratized knowledge by making books more accessible to a wider population, allowing libraries to expand their collections, and enabling scholars to share their research more easily.
2. Woodblock printing revolutionized the production of books and documents by allowing text and images to be carved onto wooden blocks, inked, and pressed onto paper, enabling the mass production of texts.
3. The Diamond Sutra is significant as one of the earliest examples of a printed book, dating back to 868 CE. It demonstrates the power of woodblock printing to preserve and disseminate knowledge, especially in the context of Buddhism.
4. Woodblock printing facilitated trade and commerce by allowing merchants to print catalogs, maps, and other documents for business transactions and navigation.
5. The inventions of paper and woodblock printing laid the foundation for modern publishing, printing technologies, and the global spread of knowledge.

