

Our past and present – Communication in the 1800s

Multiple choice

Circle the correct answer

1. An ink well is:
 - a) Somewhere you can get water from
 - b) A small jar or container for holding ink
 - c) A fancy name for a stylish pen

2. To write or draw:
 - a) You dip your finger into the ink well
 - b) You dip your brush, quill or pen into the ink well
 - c) You pour the ink from the ink well onto your page

3. A lid on an ink well:
 - a) Would keep the ink from drying up too quickly
 - b) Kept the ink from spilling when the ink was transported
 - c) Both of the above

4. Ink wells were:
 - a) Carried by soldiers so they could write home to their families
 - b) Lost popularity when the typewriter was invented in 1870
 - c) Became less in demand in 1884 when the fountain pen was produced
 - d) All of the above
 - e) None of the above



Inkwell and pen stand, Australia, 1864

Image courtesy of Australian History Museum, Macquarie University

Our past and present – Communications Activity Sheet



TOOLS FOR COMMUNICATION

Circle and colour the tools below that people use today to communicate with each other. Can you think of any other tools from the past or present used for communications?

