



THE STORY BEHIND THE QR CODE

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Warm-up - What Do You Think?

Discuss with a partner.

1. Have you ever scanned a QR code?
2. Where do you usually see QR codes?
3. What do QR codes do?
4. Who do you think invented the QR code?



Vocabulary - Pronunciation Focus

Word	Sounds Like
scan	SKAN
invented	in-VEN-tid
engineer	en-jin-EER
factory	FAK-tuh-ree
barcode	BAR-kohd
information	in-fer-MAY-shun
store	STOR
quick	KWIK
smartphone	SMART-fohn
technology	tek-NOL-uh-jee

Reading Story

The Story Behind the QR Code

Have you ever used your phone to scan a QR code? Today, QR codes are everywhere. We use them to read restaurant menus, pay for shopping, visit websites, and even check into hotels or airports.

But where did they come from?

The QR code was invented in **Japan** in **1994** by an engineer named **Masahiro Hara**. He worked for a company that made car parts. At the time, factories used ordinary barcodes, but they could only hold a small amount of information. Workers needed something faster and more useful.

Hara and his team created a new type of code that could store much more information and could be scanned quickly from different directions. They called it a **Quick Response**, or **QR**, code because it could be read almost instantly.

At first, QR codes were mainly used in factories. Later, smartphones made them popular around the world. Today, millions of people scan QR codes every day without thinking about the clever invention behind them.

The next time you scan a QR code, remember that it began as a simple idea to make work faster —and it changed the way we share information forever.

Vocabulary Match

Match the words (1–10) with their meanings (A–J).

Words

1. Scan
2. Invented
3. Engineer
4. Factory
5. Barcode
6. Information
7. Store (*verb*)
8. Quick
9. Smartphone
10. Technology

Meanings

- A. A person who designs or builds machines or systems.
- B. A place where products are made.
- C. A pattern of lines or squares used to identify products or information.
- D. Facts or knowledge about something.
- E. To create something new for the first time.
- F. To save or keep something.
- G. Fast.
- H. A mobile phone with internet access and apps.
- I. To read something using a camera or scanner.
- J. Machines, tools, and inventions used to solve problems.

Reading Comprehension

1. In which country was the QR code invented?
2. Who invented the QR code?
3. Why were ordinary barcodes not enough?
4. What does **QR** stand for?
5. Why did QR codes become popular around the world?
6. **True or False:** QR codes were first created for restaurants.
7. **True or False:** Smartphones helped make QR codes popular.
8. Name two places where you have seen a QR code.

One More Interesting Fact!

 A QR code can still work even if **part of it is damaged**. That's because it includes special error-correction technology that helps scanners read the missing information.

Teacher's Key

Vocabulary Match

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Teacher's Key

- 1 – I
- 2 – E
- 3 – A
- 4 – B
- 5 – C
- 6 – D
- 7 – F
- 8 – G
- 9 – H
- 10 – J