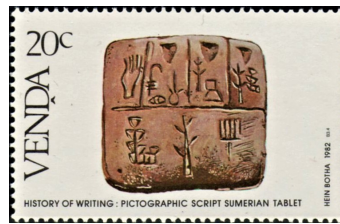


Communication Through the Ages

From cave paintings to QR codes, the evolution of human communication is a history whose last event happened milliseconds ago. Graphic communications, including primitive records; alphabets and languages; writing and book production; and the machinery, equipment and processes to produce all of these, make much of what we love possible. Without the printing press, for example, few stamps would exist for us to collect! While explaining the history of graphic communications is a bit like telling the history of the world, this exhibit offers a whirlwind tour of communication elements over time.



Ancient cave painting (above left); clay tablets (above)

Historical texts (left); libraries protect written artifacts (above)

Materials that retain writing, such as parchment, commercially produced paper or (right) handmade bamboo paper, are integral to forms of communication.



Exploring communication includes alphabets and languages, as depicted on these 2001 Israel stamps (above left). Other topics include the implements that express language—such as the quill pen, typewriter, and the printing press—as well as those who make the communication possible. Stamps provide a view of all aspects of communication.



Explore these categories and more. Visit the Graphics Philately Association website: <https://www.graphics-stamps.org/>



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