

STUDENT WORKSHEET 2- UNDERSTANDING A PATENT

Student Name: _____

Directions: Carefully look at the drawings or photographs of different inventions. Discuss with your group the answers to the questions. Use as much detail as you can in your answers. If you don't know an answer for sure, make a good, thoughtful guess.

Example: Primary Source 12: Drawbaugh Magnetic Clock Patent

Part 1: Drawings

1. How does the inventor label his invention?
2. How many different views of the invention are shown?
3. Notice the four signatures at the bottom of each page. What are the roles of these people?
4. Why do you think a patent would need witnesses to sign it?

Part 2: Written Description

1. What is this part called? (Hint: it "specifically" describes the details of the invention.)
2. Who is the inventor?
3. Where is he from?
4. What is the title of the invention?
5. Is the patent for the entire object, or a specific improvement of the design of the object? (Hint: look in the second paragraph.)

6. When was the patent issued?
7. When was the patent application filed? About how long did it take for the patent to be issued after the application was filed?
8. What is the patent number?
9. The claims are at the end of the patent. This is perhaps the most important part of the whole document, where the inventor specifically declares what is unique about his invention. If there is ever any dispute or legal question about who owns the idea behind the invention, the claim of a patent is looked at carefully. How many claims are listed for the clock?

Example: Primary Source 13: Allen Sled Patent

Part 1: Drawings

1. How does the inventor label his invention?
2. How many different views of the invention are shown?
3. Notice the four signatures at the bottom of each page. What are the roles of these people?

Part 2: Written Description

1. Who is the inventor?
2. Where is he from?

3. What is the title of the invention?

4. Is the patent for the entire object, or a specific improvement of the design of the object? (Hint: look in the third paragraph.)

5. When was the patent issued?

6. When was the patent application filed? About how long did it take for the patent to be issued after the application was filed?

7. What is the patent number?

8. How many claims are listed for this sled?