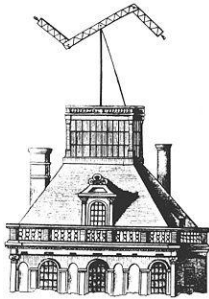


TELE-COMMUNICATION HISTORY

The meaning of “Tele” – means **Distant** in the Greek language. Therefore, tele-communications means “long distance communication”.

- 1) Primitive forms of telecommunication devices were like smoke signals and drums
- 2) In 1790s – Semaphore Systems invented – uses optical signals encoded in positions of mechanical elements - to communicate huge distances
- 3) Telegraph – 1809 – electricity allowed encoded symbols to make messages and alphabets. Allows greater distance – nationwide, even worldwide – and at a faster speed. Invented by Samuel Thomas von Sommering.
- 4) Telephone invented by Alexander Graham Bell in 1866



Semaphore Tower



Telegraph



Telephone

Prehistoric: [Fires](#), [Beacons](#), [Smoke signals](#)

6th century BC: [Mail](#)

5th century BC: [Pigeon post](#)

4th century BC: [Hydraulic semaphores](#)

490 BC: [Heliographs](#)

15th century AD: [Maritime flags](#)

1790 AD: [Semaphore lines](#)

19th century AD: [Signal lamps](#)

Audio signals:

Prehistoric: [Communication drums](#), [Horns](#)

1838 AD: [Electrical telegraph](#). See: [Telegraph history](#).

1876: [Telephone](#). See: [Invention of the telephone](#), [History of the telephone](#), [Timeline of the telephone](#)

1880: [Photophone](#)

1896: [Radio](#)

Advanced electrical/electronic signals:

1927: [Television](#)

1930: [Videophone](#)

1964: [Fiber optical telecommunications](#)

1969: [Computer networking](#)

1981: [Analog cellular mobile phones](#)

1982: [SMTP email](#)

1983: [Internet](#).

1998: [Satellite phones](#)