

**МІНІСТЕРСТВО ОСВІТИ І НАУКИ УКРАЇНИ  
СУМСЬКИЙ ДЕРЖАВНИЙ УНІВЕРСИТЕТ  
КАФЕДРА ІНОЗЕМНИХ МОВ  
ЛІНГВІСТИЧНИЙ НАВЧАЛЬНО-МЕТОДИЧНИЙ ЦЕНТР**

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VIII МІЖВУЗІВСЬКОЇ НАУКОВО-ПРАКТИЧНОЇ  
КОНФЕРЕНЦІЇ  
ЛІНГВІСТИЧНОГО НАВЧАЛЬНО-МЕТОДИЧНОГО ЦЕНТРУ  
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## THE INVENTION OF PAPER

M.A. Lityuga, group IN - 12  
A.M. Diadechko, E L Adviser

The invention of paper is one of the greatest achievements of mankind towards civilization. Paper has become an attribute of all spheres of our life.

In ancient times people searched for material that would serve them for writing. It is believed that the first production of paper is associated with the name of the Chinese dignitary Cai Lun and refers to the year 105 AD. But this is not the only version. During the archaeological excavations taken in the northern province of Shanxi in China in the middle of the last century, an ancient tomb was discovered. So, along with other interesting things, small pieces of paper were found inside it.

Papermaking process in the Middle Ages and later was considered particularly time consuming, demanding professionalism and experience. Requiring large amounts of water for production technology and in order to drive the mill, the shops and afterwards manufacturing plants were usually built on rivers. These workshops were called "paper mills."

For a very long time the main raw material that served for production of paper were rags. But with the development of printing and an increase in print runs of books, paper became more and more required. Calls do not throw old rags, though being attracting for rag collectors, did not bring the desired result. And then it was decided to try raw wood.

Surprisingly, the main fundamental techniques for papermaking have been preserved by now. Improvements have affected mainly mechanization and automation processes.

Today, the paper is considered to become a usual and affordable attribute. Production does not seem as difficult as in the old days. But even today the production of paper by hand can be observed, especially for luxury exclusive paper editions with engravings. It is hard to imagine how many uses paper finds today. But the most important use of paper still belongs to books.