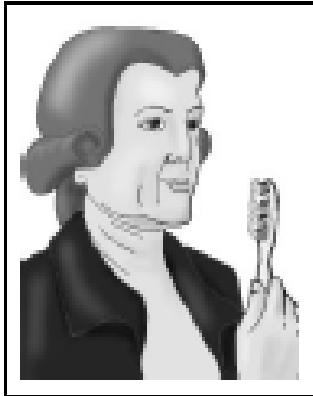


THE TOOTHBRUSH – part 2

Here is some more up-to-date information.



The Modern Toothbrush

In 1770, in England, William Addis was arrested for causing a riot and thrown into prison. Stories about inventors don't usually begin like this.

It was while he was in prison, however, watching someone sweep the floor with a broom, that he thought up the idea of a toothbrush. He thought that some sort of brush would be better than the rag he had been using.

He experimented with a piece of bone with holes drilled in it for bristles. When he was released from prison, he started a very successful toothbrush-making business. When he died in 1808, he was rich. The business stayed in the family until 1996.

Now known as Wisdom Toothbrushes, the company makes around 70 million toothbrushes every year.

1. When was William Addis thrown into prison?

_____ 

2. Why does the writer say: Stories about inventors don't usually begin like this?

3. Where did Addis's idea for a toothbrush come from?

4. What was his first toothbrush made of?

5. When did he die?

6. What is the modern name of the company that began with William Addis?

7. How many toothbrushes does the company make every year?
