

Time Travel

Science

Genre

An **Internet Article** is a form of nonfiction that gives verifiable information and facts about a topic.



Text Features

A **Hyperlink** is an electronic connection within the text that provides direct access to more information.

A **Keyword** is a specific word typed into the search box that helps you find information on the Internet.

Content Vocabulary

universally aeronautics
fleeting

There are many different sources of information on the Internet. There are search engines, encyclopedias, newspapers, and other online reference sources. However, it is crucial to evaluate the sources you choose.

Evaluate your source. Decide if the online source of information is both reliable and appropriate. Historical records, encyclopedias, magazine articles, and newspaper articles usually contain reliable information.

Decide if you should check more than one source. Determine if you need to check more than one site to confirm your findings.

Use menus, toolbars, and links. Web sites are constructed to offer lots of choices while you are reading an article. Menus can help you decide what you want to read next. If you want to look for another topic, conduct a search simply by typing a key word in the search box and clicking “Go” or “Search.” The computer will find it for you. Toolbars and links give you related information.

Choose your hyperlink. Click on one or more of the available hyperlinks within the text to get direct access to other information you need.





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Science Online

Offering great articles on science topics

Search Time Travel

Go

You Are a Time Traveler

by Louis Kamsky

Time travel has long fascinated people. Traveling to the past or future would allow you to live in exciting periods of history or to get a glimpse of what the world would be like in the future. You might even travel to the near future and see yourself as a grandparent! Think about it. If you were allowed to go back to the past, whom would you want to meet? Michelangelo? King Henry VIII? Eleanor Roosevelt? What historical event would you like to witness? The French Revolution? The Allied invasion of Normandy? You might set your sights more modestly with a visit to yourself as a baby.

Since these ideas are so **universally** tempting, it is natural that time travel would interest so many writers, filmmakers, and scientists. But you might be surprised to realize that in the smallest sense of the term, we are all time travelers. Even as you sit here reading this article, time is racing forward. The future becomes the past as soon as it happens. Think about it: the present is so **fleeting!** Everything you do quickly becomes part of the past, and so it is that we move through time. The famous scientist, [Albert Einstein](#), assigned a mathematical formula to this idea, which is called the Theory of Relativity.



Black hole at the center of a galaxy



Albert Einstein

Jules Verne

Time Machines
in Movies

Time Machines
in Fiction

Albert Einstein

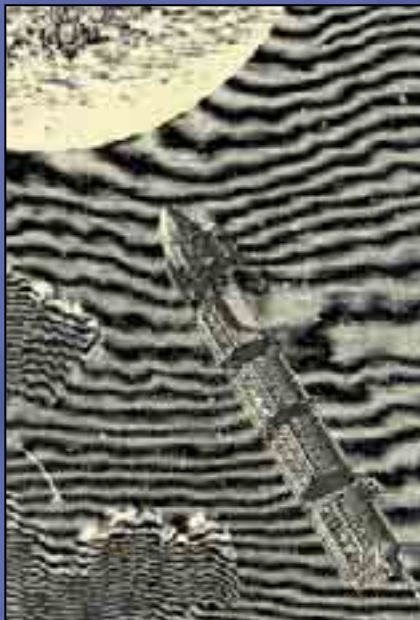
Black Holes

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Science Online



Jules Verne



LINKS

Jules Verne (1828-1905)

Jules Verne was a French novelist and a pioneer writer of science fiction. After he tried to run away to become a sailor at age 11, he promised his family he would only travel in his imagination. He fulfilled this promise, writing at least 50 tales of extraordinary voyages.

Verne was very interested in geography and new discoveries in **aeronautics** and travel. His first famous work, *Five Weeks in a Balloon* (1863), gained him fame and wealth. Most of his books are adventure stories based on wide research. He is best known for his classic works of science fiction such as *From the Earth to the Moon* (1865) and [20,000 Leagues Under the Sea](#) (1870), which show extraordinary cleverness in predicting submarines and space travel. In general, Verne influenced literature by giving credibility to scientific efforts.

- Science Fiction Writers
- 19th Century Science Predictions



Black Holes

When stars that are more than four times the mass of the sun reach the end of their life and have used all their fuel, they collapse under the pressure of their own weight. The center of this collapse becomes a black hole. Black holes have such a strong force that even light cannot escape from them. They suck everything in and are shaped like an ice cream cone, whose point is called a *singularity*.



Black Hole

Connect and Compare

1. In what ways would hyperlinks in this article be useful? **Using Hyperlinks**
2. Why might an online science article be a reliable source? **Analyze**
3. What facts discussed in “You Are a Time Traveler” complement the ideas in *LAFFF*? How does *LAFFF* qualify as science fiction? Explain. **Reading/Writing Across Texts**



Science Activity

Research the concept of time travel on the Internet. Then write your own evaluation of time travel.



Find out more about science fiction at www.macmillanmh.com

Write an EXPLANATORY ESSAY

Writer's Craft

Transitions

Use **transitions** to connect the ideas in one or more paragraphs. Transition words, including *after* and *finally*, help explain your information and improve your writing's flow.

The Water Glass Problem

by Ruben J.

Sometimes small problems can be really annoying. Insects are a good example.

Last summer we spent two weeks in my uncle's cabin on a lake. The swimming, boating, and fishing were great, but the bugs bugged me. Every night I put a glass of water by my bed in case I got thirsty. The problem was that insects kept getting into the glass. Yuck!

After a few nights I decided to solve my problem. First, I looked for holes in the window screens and put patches on them, but some insects got in anyway. Next, I thought about keeping a spoon next to my glass so I could scoop out the bugs. Somehow that was the least appealing solution. I thought harder. Then I put a small plate over the top of the glass. That night I knocked over the plate and it broke. As I wiped up the pieces with a tissue, the solution was suddenly clear. I would place a tissue over the glass top—no bugs, no breakage, no mess.

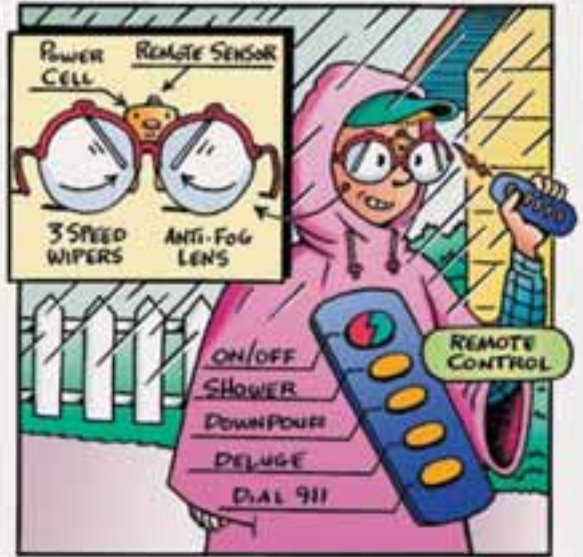
Finally, this solution worked perfectly, and it was so simple. I'm a genius!

I tried to write paragraphs that flow smoothly.

I used transitions between my paragraphs.

Your Turn

Think about a problem you have solved. It can be a big problem or a small one like the one that Ruben described. Write an explanatory essay telling how you solved your problem. Be sure that your main idea is clear and that you use transitions between paragraphs. Use the Writer's Checklist to check your writing.



Writer's Checklist

- Ideas and Content:** Does the beginning of my essay grab the reader's attention? Do I state my problem clearly?
- Organization:** Does my essay have **transitions** between paragraphs?
- Voice:** Are my feelings about my problem and solution clear?
- Word Choice:** Do I use strong verbs and fresh adjectives to explain my problem and solution?
- Sentence Fluency:** Do my sentences have variety? Do my sentences flow when I read my paper aloud?
- Conventions:** Are my spelling and punctuation correct? Do I use comparative forms of adverbs correctly?