



Read the biography passage carefully. Then answer each question below in complete sentences.

Look for key facts about the person's early life, achievements, and impact. Use details from the passage to support your answers.

Hedy Lamarr: Inventor and Star



Did you know a famous movie star helped invent technology we use every day, like Wi-Fi and Bluetooth? Her name was Hedy Lamarr, and she was much more than just a beautiful face on screen.

Born Hedwig Eva Maria Kiesler in Vienna, Austria, in 1914, Hedy was a very curious child. She loved to take apart toys and other devices to see how they worked, showing an early interest in innovation.

While a famous Hollywood actress, Hedy was also a brilliant inventor. During World War II, she and her friend, composer George Antheil, developed a "secret communication system." This system used "frequency hopping" to make torpedo guidance signals harder for enemies to detect and block, aiming to protect Allied ships.

Despite their patent, the U.S. Navy did not immediately use Hedy's idea, finding it too complex for the technology of the time. Hedy faced the challenge of her invention not being valued right away. However, she believed in her work even though she didn't receive much public credit during the war.

Years later, Hedy's frequency hopping concept became crucial for modern wireless technologies. Her innovative thinking is now celebrated, and her invention is a foundational part of how our cell phones, Wi-Fi networks, and GPS devices communicate securely today.



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

(1) Where was Hedy Lamarr born?

- (A) Hollywood, USA
- (B) Berlin, Germany
- (C) Vienna, Austria
- (D) Paris, France

(2) Hedy Lamarr and George Antheil developed a secret communication system using a technique called _____.

— continue writing on the lines below

(3) What does the word "foundational" mean as it is used in the passage?

- (A) old-fashioned
- (B) easy to use
- (C) a basic and important part
- (D) difficult to understand

(4) Why do you think Hedy Lamarr continued to believe in her invention even when the U.S. Navy did not immediately use her idea? Use details from the passage.

(5) How has Hedy Lamarr's work changed the world? What can we learn from her life?



