

~5000 BCE

Humans start using woven fabrics out of flax, cotton, and animal hair



200 BCE–200 CE

Communities in the Middle East, Asia, and China start using fossil fuels to heat their homes and purify water.



~1500 CE

Europeans bring natural rubber samples back from exploration in South America.



~1952 CE

For five days in December unusual weather in London (cold and no wind) caused the air pollution to create a large black cloud over the city. As a result many people died.



1850–1920 CE

Chemists and engineers make the “man-made,” or synthetic, fibers that make fabrics like nylon or polyester. They also start making the synthetic plastics.



~1750 CE

With the Industrial Revolution coal and oil overtake water as the main source of energy. New inventions mean that fabric can be made in much larger amounts.



1990 CE

The US Pollution Prevention Act was passed. This law focused industry, government, and public attention on reducing the amount of pollution by making changes in manufacturing and raw materials.



1998 CE

Paul Anastas and John C. Warner co-author the book, *Green Chemistry: Theory and Practice*. This book outlines the 12 Principles of Green Chemistry and why they are important.



2005 CE

Yves Chauvin, Robert H. Grubbs, and Richard R. Schrock win the Noble prize in chemistry for figuring out a more environmentally friendly way to make many important chemicals.



20?? CE

What will you invent?