The first newspapers can be dated back to the 1600’s in Europe. Printed periodicals were rapidly replacing hand written newssheets. This was made possible by the invention of the printing press in Europe in the year 1450 by Johannes Gutenberg. There had been previous versions of printing presses in China and Korea, but Gutenberg brought it to Europe.

The term newspaper actually became common in the 1600’s, but there had been documents that we would consider newspapers for years before in Germany.

The first newspaper in English was published in Amsterdam in the year 1620. It was called the Corrant out of Italy, Germany, etc.

There is a newspaper in Sweden that has been publishing since 1645. It is the oldest in existence even if it only prints online now. (Post-och Inrikes Tidningar)

-At this time newspapers were filled with propaganda. They were overly dramatic and wrote about magic and public executions, with no criticism of the government.

-The London Gazette (beginning November 7th, 1665) began publishing. It changed how English printing looked. It featured two columns, clear titles and clear dates.

-1814: Times of London got a printing press that could print both sides.

-1830: A penny press newspaper came out. It was very inexpensive and appealed to a wider audience because more people could easily afford it.

1840s: Telegraphs made it possible for news to be passed on overnight.

-A more people could read, they asked for more news so they added more visual appeal and brisk writing styles (so the facts and not a lot of descriptive language).