

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Rube Goldberg Cartoons

Rube Goldberg (rōob göld'berg) n. a comically involved, complicated invention, laboriously contrived to perform a simple operation – *Webster's New World Dictionary*

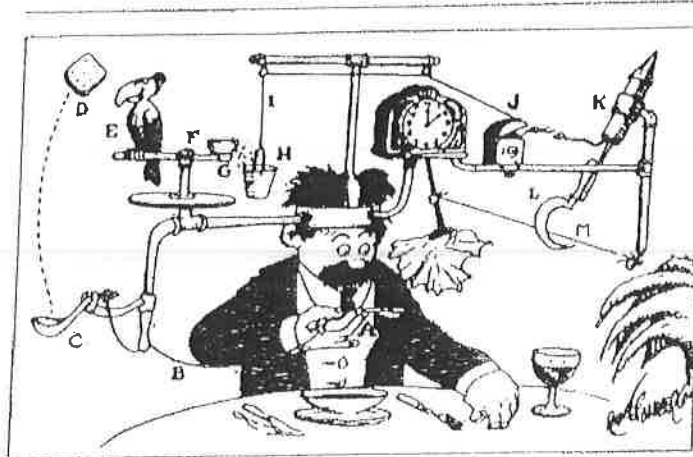
Rube Goldberg (1883-1970) was a Pulitzer Prize winning cartoonist, sculptor, and author. Best known for his "inventions", Rube's early years as an engineer informed his most acclaimed work. A Rube Goldberg contraption – an elaborate set of arms, wheels, gears, handles, cups, and rods, put in motion by balls, canary cages, pails, boots, bathtubs, paddles, and live animals – takes a simple task and makes it extraordinarily complicated. He had solutions for How To Get The Cotton Out Of An Aspirin Bottle, imagined a Self-Operating Napkin, and created a Simple Alarm Clock – to name just a few of his hilariously depicted drawings.



The promise and pitfalls of modern technology make Rube Goldberg's inventions even more relevant now than when they were originally created. From think-tanks in Silicon Valley, to the New York Times, to Sunday morning's Meet the Press, hardly a day goes by without the name "Rube Goldberg" being invoked. In fact Rube Goldberg is an adjective in Webster's Dictionary.

Example:

Self-Operating Napkin



Rube Goldberg walks in his sleep, strolls through a cactus field in his bare feet, and screams out an idea for self-operating napkin: As you raise spoon of soup (A) to your mouth it pulls string (B), thereby jerking ladle (C) which throws cracker (D) past parrot (E). Parrot jumps after cracker and perch (F) tilts, upsetting seeds (G) into pail (H). Extra weight in pail pulls cord (I), which opens and lights automatic cigar lighter (J), setting off sky-rocket (K) which causes sickle (L) to cut string (M) and allow pendulum with attached napkin to swing back and forth thereby wiping off your chin. After the meal, substitute a harmonica for the napkin and you'll be able to entertain the guests with a little music.

Your task:

Design a "Rube Golberg" type cartoon which depicts compound machine performing a simple job (wiping nose, tying shoe, etc)

Must include ALL six types of simple machines

Each activity must be labeled A, B, C, etc....

Must include caption explaining the story of what happens at each point

Humans may only be involved at the START of the machine and NO animal cruelty!

Must be in Black & White and include a title which explains the job being done



Activity examples: Walking the dog, turning off the alarm, making coffee, making bacon. **Others:**

Examples of energy & motion: Match being lit, boot kicking over a pail, chicken laying an egg, Fan blowing a ping pong ball. **Others:**

Simple Machine	How I might incorporate