



The Postage Stamp

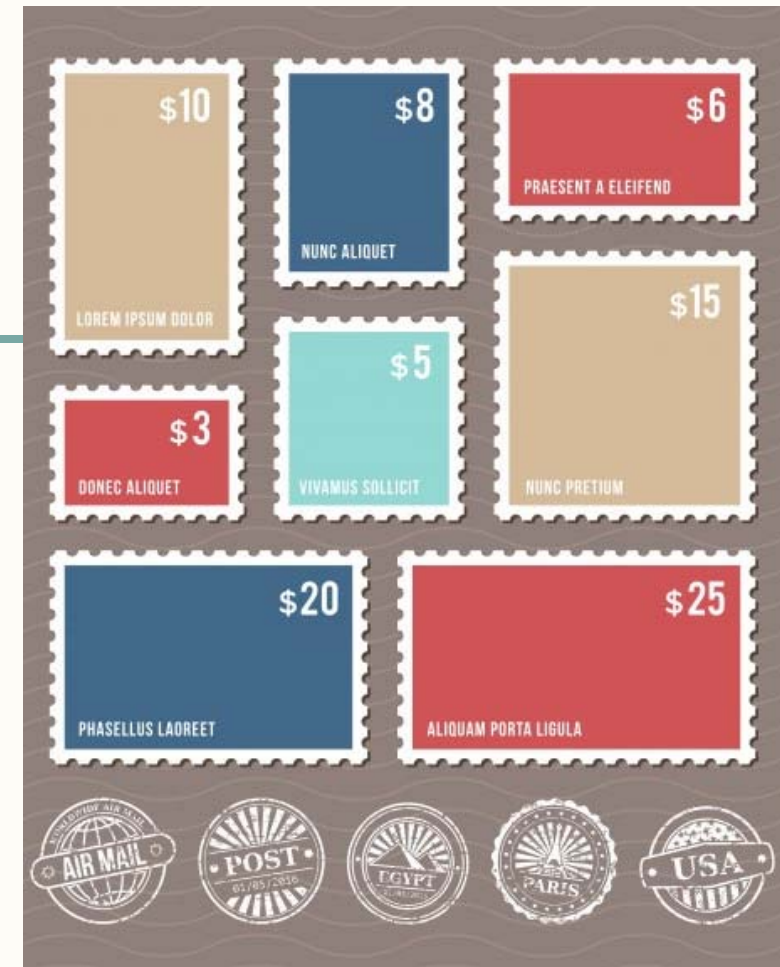


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Although James Chalmers, an Irish, was known to have created the postage stamp in early 1834, it is well documented that stamps were first introduced as part of postal reforms by Englishman, Rowland Hill.

One day in 1840, Hill heard a quarrel when he was walking in the city. He found a postman quarrelling with a woman regarding the postage fee. The postman told Hill that the woman refused to pay and returned the letter to him. The woman had no money to pay for the postage fee despite the far distance the postman had to travel to send her the letter.

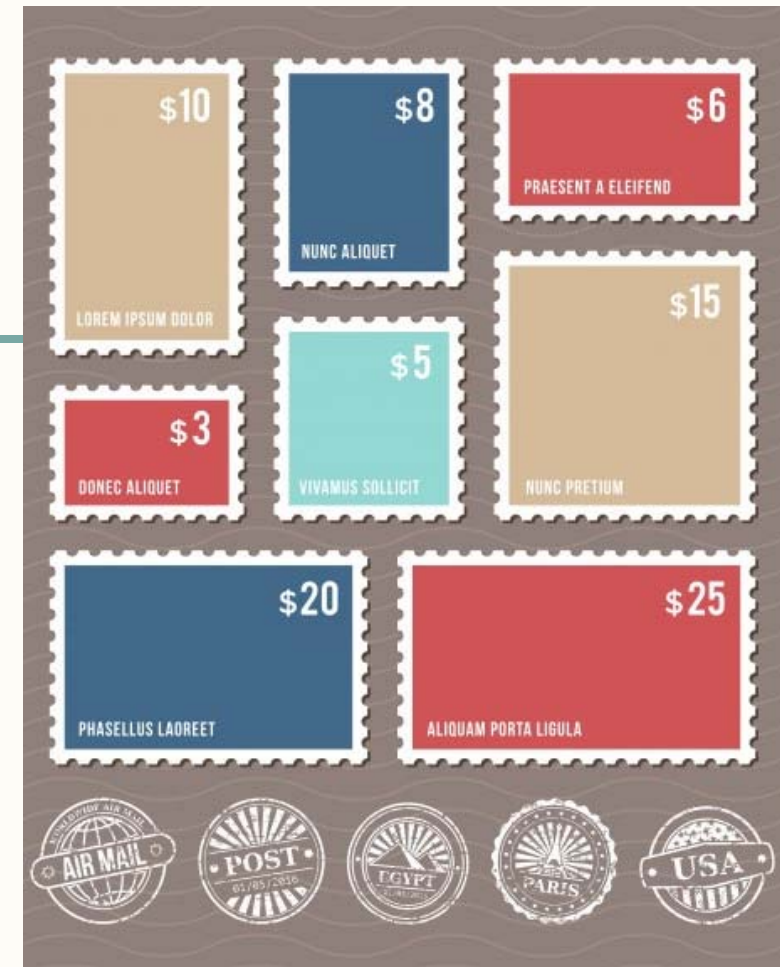


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Hill paid the postage fee for the woman. The woman was appreciative and told him that the letter was from her husband who was working in another place. They were very poor and she was not able to pay the postage fee. The husband told her earlier that he would draw two circles on the envelope to show that he was doing well.

Hill realized that collecting postage fee from the recipient was a huge mistake. He then proposed to the authorities that the postage fee should be paid by the sender and not the receiver. The postage stamp was to be pasted on the envelope as proof of payment. The authorities adopted his suggestion.

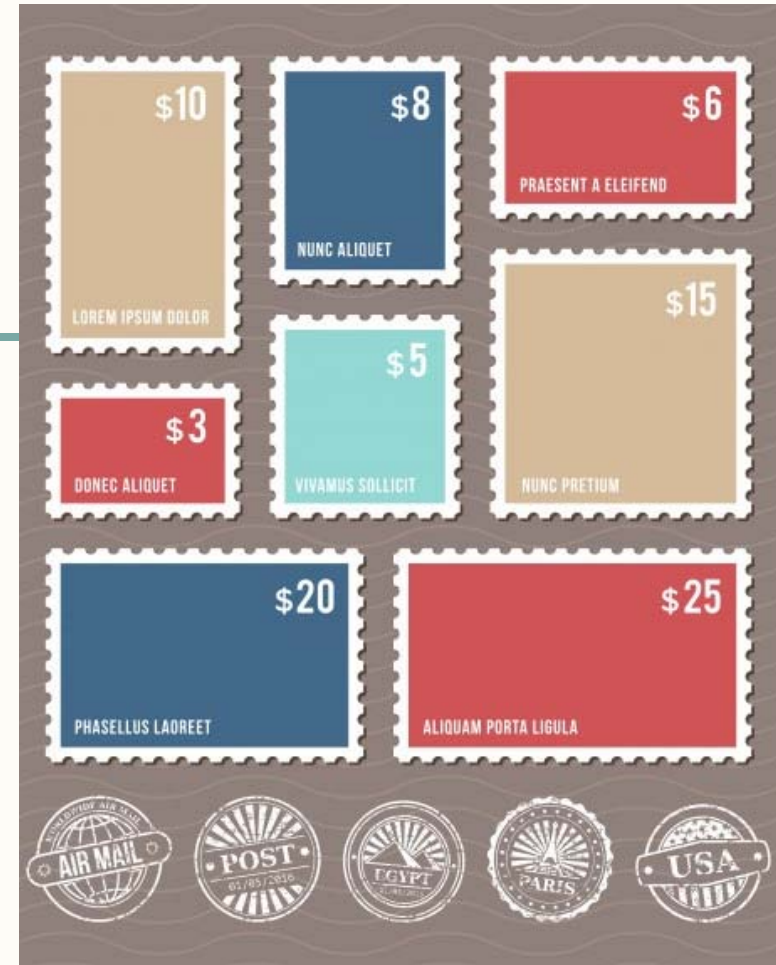


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The English Government eventually approved and introduced the first batch of postage stamps - the “Penny Black” and the “Two Pence Blue”. Rowland Hill may not be the creator of stamps, but he introduced the concept of postage stamps. This is the reason he’s known as the “Father of Postage Stamps”.

Food for Thought:

The passion to look for solutions will bring a creative and unexpected outcome.



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