

Petrache Poenaru

Petrache Poenaru was a teacher, an inventor, an engineer and a mathematician, but his best invention was the fountain pen.

First let's learn a little about him.

He was born on the 10th of January 1799 in Valcea (a Romanian city). Poenaru first studied in Paris and then in Viena, later ending his studies in England. He created the fountain pen while studying in Paris at the age of 28. He was one of the organizers of the National Romanian Education Centre and the founder of the Carol I National College from Craiova. He was also the first ever Romanian to travel by train.

When he invented the fountain pen he said: "plume portable sans fin, qui s'alimente elle-meme avec de l'ancre" which means "the never ending portable pen, which recharges itself with ink".

He died on the 2nd of October 1875 in the capital of Romania, Bucharest.

Now let's learn about his invention.

In 1836 he went to France to attend the Ecole Polytechnique in Paris where he studied Geodesy and Surveying. He was so busy creating the pen that he didn't take notes in class. At the time, you needed to dip your pen in ink every 2 minutes but once with Petrache Poenaru's invention you only needed to replace the reservoir every 4-5 days and it was easier to write with.



This was our project about Petrache Poenaru and his invention, the fountain pen.

Quiz Question:

What was the destination of the train that Poenaru traveled by for the first time (the first Romanian who traveled by train)? (4p)

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