NAME _____

DATE _____

CLASS _____

WEB & WIRELESS TECH

Marian Croak

Sending Voices Over the Internet

The Engineer Behind Internet Calls

Dr. Marian Croak is an American **engineer** who was born in 1955. An engineer is a person who designs and builds things to solve problems. Marian loves solving problems with technology.

Marian is a pioneer of something called **VoIP**, which stands for Voice over Internet Protocol. VoIP lets people make phone calls over the internet instead of over old-fashioned phone lines. When you make a video call or an internet call today, you are using the kind of technology Marian helped build.

Marian also invented 'text-to-donate.' This lets people send a text message with a short code to give money to a charity. After big disasters, like Hurricane Katrina in 2005, text-to-donate helped people raise a lot of money to help others. Marian holds more than 200 **patents**, and in 2022 she was added to the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

WORDS TO KNOW

- **engineer:** a person who designs and builds things to solve problems
- **VoIP:** Voice over Internet Protocol; a way to make phone calls over the internet instead of old phone lines
- **patent:** an official record that says a person is the inventor of a new idea

Part 1 · Reading Comprehension

1. What does an engineer do?

_____

_____

2. What does VoIP let people do?

_____

_____

3. What did Marian's 'text-to-donate' invention let people do?

4. What honor did Marian receive in 2022?

Text-to-Donate Adding

In a text-to-donate campaign, each text message gives $10 to a charity.

1. If 4 people each text a $10 donation, how much money is raised? (4 × $10)
2. If 10 people each text a $10 donation, how much money is raised? (10 × $10)
3. How much more is raised by the 10 people than by the 4 people? (Subtract.)

Part 3 · Think About It

Why might texting a donation be easier for people than mailing a check to a charity?