

Aa

The ITC **American Typewriter** family of typefaces mimic the style of a mechanical typewriter but without the constraint of fixed character widths and spacing. Milton Glaser's *New York* logo is probably the most widely recognised – and parodied – use of the face.



**A** is for **Apple Computer**. The original Macintosh, launched in 1984 – the first commercially successful personal computer to feature a mouse and a graphical user interface – was named after America's best-selling apple variety. In 2008 *Fortune* magazine named Apple the most admired company in the United States.

I ♥ NY



Part of the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, Michaelangelo's **Creation of Adam** was one of the last panels to be completed. The background figures and shapes portrayed behind the figure of God appear to be an anatomically accurate picture of the human brain.



Born in 1901, **Louis Armstrong** entertained with his searing trumpet playing and unique vocals until his death in 1971. Urged on by his redoubtable wife Lillian, Armstrong was an innovative pioneer of jazz in the 1920s before settling into decades as a much loved stage and film entertainer. Having



Edward Lloyd, proprietor of a London coffee house, encouraged a clientele of ships' captains, merchants and ship owners, in contrast to the rowdier coffee shop patrons depicted in Hogarth's painting. After his death some of the customers formed the Register Society – which evolved into Lloyd's Register – and in 1764 printed the first *Register of Ships*, as a reference resource for the insurance and shipping businesses. Ship hulls were graded on a lettered scale (A being the best), and ship's fittings (masts, rigging, and other equipment) were graded by number (1 being the best). Thus the top classification was 'A1', from which the expression **A1**, or **A1 at Lloyd's**, to denote the highest quality, is derived. The system developed over the years leading to the ultimate classification  $\pounds$ 100A1.



rasped his way through the title song of the 1956 film *High Society* (a musical remake of *The Philadelphia Story*) Louis launches the film's narrative by declaring 'End of song, beginning of story'...

**Arizona**, admitted to the United States in 1912 as



the 48th state, is, with Utah, Colorado and New Mexico, one of the 'Four Corner' states – the only instance of four states meeting. A landlocked state, Arizona nevertheless has disastrous naval connections: the battleship

USS *Arizona* was sunk by Japanese aircraft at Pearl Harbor in 1941 while the cruiser USS *Phoenix* – named after the state capital and renamed *General Belgrano* after its sale to Argentina – was sunk by a British submarine off the Falklands in 1982.



The **ampersand** – *and per se and* – provides scope for invention and exuberance in type design, while the **amphora** symbol has a new, world-wide, usage.



The greatest British architect of the late 18th century, **Robert Adam**, with his brothers John and James, also designed the interiors and furnishings of their neo-classical buildings, such as Kenwood House. A frequently employed motif was the Greek **anthemion** – a palm-like leaf published in pattern-books. Their **Adelphi** development in London was named from the Greek for *brothers*.

With its curious property of expanding when cooling, **antimony**, a chemical element with the symbol Sb (from Latin: *stibium*, 'mark'), was used in an alloy with lead and tin to ensure the sharpness of freshly cast hot metal type.

