

The changing cost of light

1750BC

In 1750 BC, the people of Babylon used sesame oil to light the lamps, and had to work for 400 hours to produce one hour of 100w light.



1800

In around 1800, using tallow candles, 50 hours of work were required.



1900

Using a gas lamp in the late 19th century, three hours were necessary.

2017

Using an energy-saving bulb today, you will have to work for the blink of an eye – a second.