The Beatles’ Innovations and “Firsts”

First true rock and roll group (with three lead singers)

First international rock and roll stars

Only rock group or artist to hold the first five places on the Billboard “Hot 100” chart

First movie about rock and roll lifestyle and stardom (*A Hard Day's Night*—1964)

First “crossover” rock and roll hit song: “Yesterday,” (1965) which has over 2,000 recorded “covers”

First “stadium concert”—before 50,000 fans in Shea Stadium, New York City, 1965

First “music videos,” shown on *The Ed Sullivan Show*, May, 1966 (“Paperback Writer” and “Rain”) 

First “concept album”—“Sergeant Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band,” 1967

First lyrics on album cover—“Sergeant Pepper”

First live, televised, worldwide performance of rock and roll—“Our World,” June 25, 1967

First rock and roll group to perform live on a downtown rooftop (January 30, 1969)

Only rock group in which all four members issued individual No. 1 hit songs after their breakup