

## EXAM TASK: READING ALOUD

### Pronunciation tip

#### Intonation of enumeration

Mind your intonation when you enumerate things. Each enumerated part of the list is pronounced with a rising intonation, but the last part is pronounced with a falling intonation. e.g.: Apple's revolutionary products include the ↗ iPod, ↗ iPhone and ↘ iPad.

**7. Practise reading the following sentences about a few famous female scientists. Mark the rising and falling intonation in enumeration like it is done in the first sentence.**

1. Margaret Knight was an exceptional inventor in the late 19th century. Knight received 27 patents for inventions including ↗ shoe-manufacturing machines, a ↗ "dress shield" to protect clothes from stains, and a ↘ rotary engine.
2. At the turn of the 20th century, a German housewife named Melitta Bentz updated brewing coffee for the modern world. She put a piece of thick, absorbent paper into a brass pot, punched holes in it and poured the coffee through.
3. During World War II, a scientist and inventor Katharine Blodgett conducted important research to military needs like gas masks, smoke screens and a new technique for de-icing airplane wings.
4. Stephanie Kwolek made an especially important discovery in 1965. Her new synthetic fibres were used in military helmets, bulletproof vests, work gloves, sports equipment, fibre-optic cables and building materials.

**Adapted from:** <http://www.biography.com/news/famous-women-inventors-biography>

### PRACTISE READING ALOUD

**8. Read the text aloud.**

Most people immediately think of the light bulb when they think of Thomas Edison. But although this genius did in fact invent the first practical, long-lasting light bulb, he had a hand in creating many more things we can still see around us today. He invented or contributed to recorded music, electrical systems, the telephone, the alkaline battery, X-rays and an early cinema projector. Incredibly, by the end of his life he held 1093 patents and he is responsible for more inventions than any other inventor in history!

Perhaps Edison's greatest strength was that he absolutely refused to give up. He said, "Many of life's failures are people who did not realise how close they were to success when they gave up". Unbelievably, it took Edison thousands of tries before he found the right filament to use for his light bulb. He wasn't afraid of failure. He simply saw his bad ideas as stepping stones to better ones. Even after his factory was almost totally destroyed by fire, he said, "There is great value in disaster. All our mistakes are burned up and we can start anew". Three weeks later, Edison delivered the first phonograph.

**Besides never giving up, what should a person do to become a prominent figure in her/his field? You may use the examples from other famous people's lives to answer this question.**