

## Grade 4

### Reading Biography

#### Thomas Edison: The Inventor of Light

Thomas Edison was a remarkable inventor known for his contributions to the world of technology and innovation. He was born on February 11, 1847, in Milan, Ohio, USA. Edison's life was filled with curiosity and a passion for learning from a very young age.

**Early Years:** As a child, Edison had difficulty hearing, which made school challenging for him. However, his mother encouraged his love for reading and learning at home. He conducted various experiments in his basement, often taking apart gadgets to see how they worked. This curiosity would become a driving force in his life.

**The Light Bulb Invention:** One of Edison's most famous inventions was the electric light bulb. Before his invention, people used gas lamps or candles to light their homes, which were not only dim but also dangerous. Edison wanted to find a safer and more efficient way to illuminate the world.

After many experiments and countless failures, Edison finally succeeded in creating a practical, long-lasting light bulb in 1879. This invention revolutionized the way people lived, making it possible to work and enjoy activities after dark.

**Other Inventions:** Edison was not limited to the light bulb; he held over 1,000 patents for various inventions. Some of his other notable creations include the phonograph, which could record and play back sound, and the motion picture camera, which paved the way for the modern film industry.

**The Impact:** Thomas Edison's inventions had a profound impact on society. They improved the quality of life and paved the way for many technological advancements that followed. His work laid the foundation for the modern world we live in today.

Now, let's test your knowledge with some multiple-choice questions:

1. When was Thomas Edison born?
  - a) 1847
  - b) 1879
  - c) 1901
  - d) 1950
  
2. What was one of Edison's most famous inventions?
  - a) Telephone
  - b) Microwave
  - c) Electric light bulb
  - d) Bicycle
  
3. Why was school challenging for Thomas Edison?
  - a) He was blind.
  - b) He had difficulty in smelling.
  - c) He had difficulty in hearing.
  - d) He was slow at learning.

4. How many patents did Edison hold?

- a) 100
- b) 500
- c) Over 1,000
- d) None

5. What did Edison invent that could record and play back sound?

- a) Telephone
- b) Phonograph
- c) Television
- d) Radio

6. How did the electric light bulb change people's lives?

- a) It made them sleep longer.
- b) It made it possible to work and enjoy activities after dark.
- c) It made food taste better.
- d) It made people fly.

7. Where was Edison born?
- a) New York City
  - b) Milan, Ohio
  - c) London, England
  - d) Paris, France
8. What is a motion picture camera?
- a) A camera that takes pictures of motion
  - b) A camera used for selfies
  - c) A camera that can record movies
  - d) A camera that cannot take pictures
9. What did Edison's mother encourage him to do?
- a) Quit school and work on the farm.
  - b) Pursue his love for reading and learning.
  - c) Stop conducting experiments.
  - d) Become a professional athlete.

10. How did Edison's inventions impact society?

- a) They had no impact.
- b) They made life worse.
- c) They improved the quality of life and led to technological advancements.
- d) They caused more accidents.

1. Answer: a) 1847. Thomas Edison was born on February 11, 1847.
2. Answer: c) Electric light bulb. Edison is best known for inventing the electric light bulb.
3. Answer: c) He had difficulty in hearing. As a child, Edison had difficulty hearing, which made school challenging for him.
4. Answer: c) Over 1,000. Edison held over 1,000 patents for his inventions.
5. Answer: b) Phonograph. Edison invented the phonograph, which could record and play back sound.
6. Answer: b) It made it possible to work and enjoy activities after dark. The electric light bulb allowed people to have light after dark, making it possible to work and enjoy activities.
7. Answer: b) Milan, Ohio. Edison was born in Milan, Ohio, USA.
8. Answer: c) A camera that can record movies. The motion picture camera is a camera that can record movies, and Edison invented it.
9. Answer: b) Pursue his love for reading and learning. Edison's mother encouraged him to pursue his love for reading and learning.

10. Answer: c) They improved the quality of life and led to technological advancements. Edison's inventions improved the quality of life and paved the way for technological advancements.