

## **Grade 4**

### **Reading Biography**

#### **Title: Thomas Edison: The Inventor of Light**

Thomas Edison was an eminent personality whose inventions changed the world in countless ways. He was born on February 11, 1847, in Milan, Ohio, and went on to become one of the greatest inventors in history. This biography will explore the life and achievements of this remarkable individual.

#### **Early Life:**

Thomas Edison had a humble beginning. He was the youngest of seven children and faced many challenges during his childhood. He had hearing difficulties, which made school a struggle for him. Despite these obstacles, Edison's curiosity and determination shone brightly. He loved reading and conducting experiments, which hinted at the genius that was yet to be fully realized.

#### **Inventions:**

Edison's most famous invention was the electric light bulb. Before his innovation, people relied on candles, gas lamps, and oil lamps for lighting. Edison's light bulb not only illuminated homes and streets but also paved the way for a brighter, safer world. His work with electricity didn't stop there; he also created the first power plant, which brought electricity to entire cities.

In addition to the light bulb, Edison invented the phonograph, a device that could record and playback sound. This invention revolutionized the music industry and brought recorded music to people's homes for the first time. Edison's inventions also extended to the motion picture camera, the stock ticker machine, and many other useful devices.

#### **Work Ethic:**

One of the most important lessons we can learn from Thomas Edison is his work ethic. He once said, "Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration." This means that hard work and determination are more important than natural talent. Edison's countless experiments and failures before achieving success serve as an inspiration to us all.

#### **Legacy:**

Thomas Edison's legacy lives on today. His inventions have had a profound impact on our daily lives, and his work in research and development set the standard for future inventors. His name is synonymous with innovation, and he remains an enduring symbol of the power of human creativity.

### Multiple Choice Questions:

1. Where was Thomas Edison born?
  - a) New York City
  - b) Milan, Ohio
  - c) Boston, Massachusetts
  - d) Chicago, Illinois
  
2. What was Edison's most famous invention?
  - a) Telephone
  - b) Electric light bulb
  - c) Television
  - d) Radio
  
3. What percentage of success did Edison attribute to inspiration?
  - a) 50%
  - b) 25%
  - c) 99%
  - d) 10%
  
4. Which of Edison's inventions revolutionized the music industry?
  - a) Telephone
  - b) Phonograph
  - c) Television
  - d) Computer

5. What lesson can we learn from Thomas Edison's life?

- a) Natural talent is more important than hard work.
- b) Innovation is easy.
- c) Hard work and determination are crucial for success.
- d) Edison had no failures in his experiments.

### **Answers and Explanations:**

1. b Milan, Ohio

Thomas Edison was born in Milan, Ohio.

2. b Electric light bulb

Edison's most famous invention was the electric light bulb.

3. c 99%

Edison said, "Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration."

4. b Phonograph

The phonograph revolutionized the music industry by recording and playing back sound

5. c Hard work and determination are crucial for success.

Edison's life teaches us that hard work and determination are essential for success in any endeavor.