## Thomas Edison

Jamming to the radio riding the road with the wind blowing through your hair is an amazing experience. Flipping the light on in the darkness can bring light to whatever activity you are planning. Laughing at the latest movie in the movie theater can bring joy to many lives. Every person on Earth enjoys these experiences because of the genius of Thomas Edison.

Thomas Edison was born in Milan, Ohio on February II, 1847. The brilliance of Edison would come later in life in the eyes of many. Teachers would frequently find Edison daydreaming. Teachers even went so far as to say that he would never learn. Thomas's mother would then decide to teach him at their home. Thomas's mother made learning fun and taught Thomas how to read. He received a book of science experiments at the age of ten. He would try experiments in the family's basement.

Intrigued by telegraph operators at the train stations, he would pay special attention to messages that were sent from one place to another. Thomas eagerly wanted to learn how to send telegraphs. He would soon build his own telegraph. He and his friend would communicate by sending messages to one another.

"There is no substitute for hard work" Edison would express. He worked hard his entire life. He would work nights as a telegraph operator, so that he could work on inventions during the daytime. Thomas would open a lab in New Jersey in 1876. He would work so late that he would sleep on his work table. This genius would later describe a genius as "one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration." Perspiration is a fancy word for sweat.

Singing "Mary Had a Little Lamb" into a newly created machine would create a mystifying result. The newly created machine would play back the same song he had just sung! He had created the phonograph. He would later make a machine that recorded pictures into a movie.

Darkness was turned into light. This is what Edison had done for the world in his next invention. He harnessed electricity so that it would light a light bulb. For the light bulb to light up he needed something inside the bulb that would glow when heated, but wouldn't melt. He would find the best filament he could in a piece of bamboo. He would continue to find ways to bring light to people everywhere. When he died in 1931, people turned off their lights for one minute to thank him for his genius, and changing our lives for the better.

FILL IT:

LWhy does the author of this passage mention movies, the radio,

and flipping on the light within the first paragraph?

## THOMASEDISON

I.What city was Edison born in?

a. New Jersey

b. Milam

CIRCLE IT:

WRITE IT:

2. Where was Thomas Edison born. When?	c. Ohio d. Atlanta 2. What would most likely be the grade on Edison's report card in
3. How did Thomas Edison's teachers view him?	"paying attention?"  a. A
4. What did teachers say that Thomas would never be able to do?	b. B c. C d. F
5. In your opinion, why did Thomas's mother become his teacher?	3. When would Edison work as a telegraph operator?  a. weekends  b. daytime  c. nights  d. on Mondays
6. What did Thomas receive as a boy of ten years of age? Wh is this important?	Y. What was the author trying to do in writing this passage?  a. Inform the reader about Thomas Edison  b. Entertain the reader with Jokes about Thomas Edison.
7. What would Thomas try in the basement of the Edison home	c. Persuade the reader that Thomas was the great inventor ever.
8. Using context, define the word telegraph.	bulb? a. Iron b. bamboo
9. How would Edison and his friend communicate?	c. glass d. Edison's finger
10. Edison said "There is no substitute for hard work." What d	id WRITE I
he mean?	Write a narrative. You are a worker in Thomas Edison's lab. Tell
II. What happened in 1876?	the story of how the phonograph was created.
12. Edison said that genius is "1% inspiration and 99% perspiration (sweat)"	
What did he mean?	
13. What song was sung into Edison's new machine?	
14. Using context, what do you think is the meaning of the word filament?	
Hamenis	
15. Using context, what does the word phonograph mean?	
15. Using context, what does the word phonograph mean?  16. Why do you think the author wrote this passage?	
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