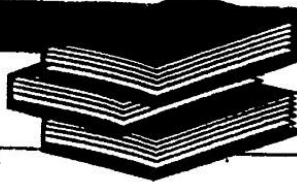


Lesson I



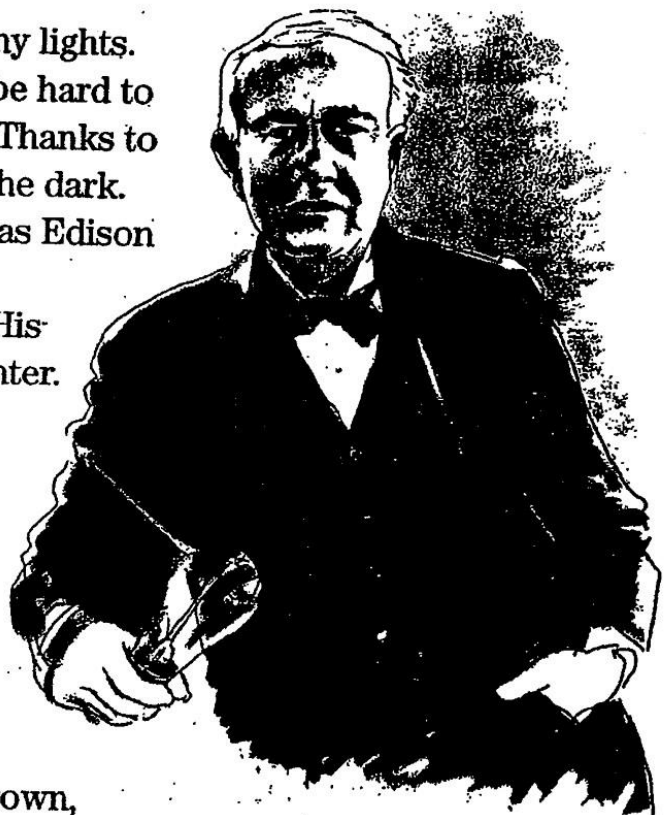
Reading a Biography

Here is a passage about Thomas Edison. Read the passage. Then do Numbers 1 through 8.

Imagine what life would be like without any lights. What would it be like at nighttime? It would be hard to see where you were going or to read a book. Thanks to Thomas Edison, people don't have to live in the dark. He invented the first light bulb in 1879. Thomas Edison spent his whole life thinking up new ideas.

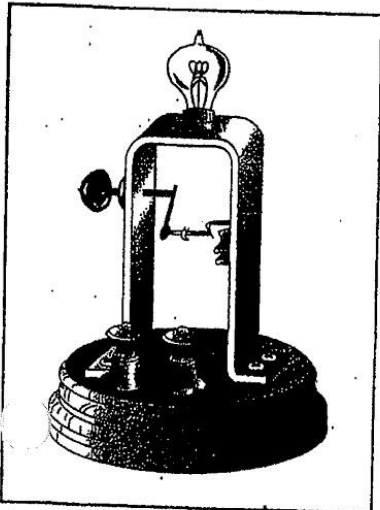
Thomas was born in Milan, Ohio, in 1847. His mother was a teacher. His father was a carpenter. Thomas liked to think, even as a young boy. Sometimes he bothered his teachers because he asked so many questions.

When he was older, Thomas began doing his own experiments. He got his first job when he was thirteen. He wanted to earn money of his own. He used the money to buy things he needed for his experiments.



When he was grown, Thomas had his own laboratory. He often worked about twenty hours a day on his experiments. Sometimes he did not know if it was daytime or nighttime.

Thomas Edison died in 1931. He created many new inventions. It was the light bulb, though, that made the greatest change in the way people live.



Edison's first lamp

1. Who is not mentioned in the story?

- Ⓐ Edison's mother
- Ⓑ Edison's wife
- Ⓒ Edison's father
- Ⓓ Edison's teachers

2. Thomas spent his whole life

- Ⓐ helping others.
- Ⓑ working to earn money.
- Ⓒ thinking up new ideas.
- Ⓓ building his laboratory.

3. Why did young Thomas sometimes bother his teachers?

- Ⓐ because he did not like school
- Ⓑ because he asked so many questions
- Ⓒ because he would not do what he was told
- Ⓓ because he did not do his homework

4. Which of these is a fact?

- Ⓐ Edison was the smartest inventor.
- Ⓑ Edison was a great student.
- Ⓒ Edison was born in Ohio.
- Ⓓ The best invention ever was the light bulb.

5. Why did Thomas get a job when he was thirteen?

- Ⓐ He wanted to try something new.
- Ⓑ He needed money to help his family.
- Ⓒ He needed money to buy a new laboratory.
- Ⓓ He wanted money to buy the things he needed for his experiments.

6. Which of these best explains why Edison sometimes did not know if it was daytime or nighttime?

- Ⓐ He never went outdoors.
- Ⓑ He had not yet invented the light bulb.
- Ⓒ He was so busy working that he didn't take time to notice.
- Ⓓ He was not very smart.

7. What is the best name for this passage?

- Ⓐ "Making Light Bulbs"
- Ⓑ "A Famous Inventor"
- Ⓒ "New Ideas"
- Ⓓ "Fun Experiments"

8. The writer wrote this passage mainly to tell

- Ⓐ how Thomas Edison got his ideas.
- Ⓑ where Thomas Edison lived.
- Ⓒ how Thomas Edison lived.
- Ⓓ when the light bulb was invented.



- For Numbers 9 through 11, read more about Thomas Edison. For each numbered blank, there is a list of words. Choose the word from each list that best completes the paragraph.

Thomas Edison also liked to make inventions work better. Alexander Graham Bell had _____ 9 _____ the telephone in 1876. Edison spent time working on Bell's telephone. He made _____ 10 _____ that helped the telephone work better than before. Even after he had invented the light bulb, Edison did not stop. He went right to work finding new ways to make an even _____ 11 _____ light bulb.

9. (A) found
(B) bought
(C) invented
(D) discovered
10. (A) telephones
(B) ideas
(C) changes
(D) experiments
11. (A) worse
(B) larger
(C) better
(D) older

For Numbers 12 and 13, read the passage. Then answer the questions.

Thomas Edison made over one thousand inventions. He even invented a way of saving, or recording, sound. Years later, he invented a way to make moving pictures. Moving pictures were the first kind of movies. These two inventions led Edison to create another invention. In 1913, he found a way to make the first moving pictures that had sound.

12. We know Edison lived long ago because
- (A) he made over one thousand inventions.
(B) he found a way of saving light.
(C) he liked to invent things.
(D) he invented the first kind of movie.
13. Which of these words best describes Thomas?
- (A) lazy
(B) shy
(C) friendly
(D) clever



Read the sentences for Numbers 14 and 15. Find the sentence that tells something that could really happen.

14. Ⓐ The dog asked the children if she could play.
- Ⓑ The dog ran after the children's ball.
- Ⓒ The dog promised to return the ball if she could play.
- Ⓓ The dog threw the ball back to the children.

15. Ⓐ The clouds thought it was time for some rain.
- Ⓑ The rain splashed on the window.
- Ⓒ It rained so hard that every house filled with water.
- Ⓓ The plants thanked the clouds for the water.



Writing

You have read about Thomas Edison and how he invented the light bulb. What do you think life would be like without the light bulb? Write two or three sentences that tell what you think.



Lesson 2



1. Read the folktale.

Reading a Folktale

Here is a folktale from Africa. Read the folktale. Then do Numbers 1 through 8.



How Did the Moon Get in the Sky?

Long ago in Africa, there was a spider. The spider had many adventures. One night, the spider was walking in the forest. He found something strange and wonderful. It was a great circle of light. The light was shining brightly.

The spider thought that the light was beautiful. He decided to take it home. "I will give the light to one of my six sons," said the spider. "But which son will I give it to?" The spider could not decide.

All six of the spider's sons wanted the beautiful light. So the spider called to the Mother of All Things. "Please help me," he asked her. "Tell me what to do. I want each of my sons to be happy."

The Mother of All Things listened. Then she thought long and hard. Finally she decided what must be done.

The Mother of All Things decided that no one person should have the light. She reached down and picked up the beautiful shining light. She threw the light into the sky. Everyone could see and enjoy the beautiful light. That is how the moon came to be in the sky.

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1. Where did the spider find the great circle of light?

- (A) in the sky
- (B) in the forest
- (C) in the grass
- (D) in the jungle

2. What did the spider want to do with the great circle of light?

- (A) keep it for himself
- (B) share it with the world
- (C) give it to one of his sons
- (D) give it to the Mother of All Things

3. Why did the spider call to the Mother of All Things?

- (A) because he needed help finding his sons
- (B) because he wanted to meet her
- (C) because he wanted to know what the great circle was
- (D) because he needed help deciding what to do

The boxes show some things that happened in the folktale.

The spider was walking in the forest.		The spider decided to take the light home.
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4. Which of these belongs in box 2?

- (A) The spider went home.
- (B) The spider called to the Mother of All Things.
- (C) The spider found something strange and wonderful.
- (D) The Mother of All Things listened to the spider.

5. When the spider found the circle of light, how did he feel?

- (A) foolish
- (B) brave
- (C) happy
- (D) beautiful

6. The Mother of All Things put the moon in the sky because she

- (A) didn't want the spider to have it.
- (B) wanted many people to see and enjoy it.
- (C) wanted to hide the moon from the spider.
- (D) wanted the moon to be near the sun.

7. What is the folktale mostly about?

- (A) how the moon got in the sky
- (B) where spiders can be found
- (C) why spiders live in the forest
- (D) how the Mother of All Things got her name

8. You can tell this folktale is make-believe because

- (A) spiders do not walk in the forest.
- (B) no one can throw the moon into the sky.
- (C) the moon does not shine brightly.
- (D) no one can see the moon in the sky.





For Numbers 9 through 11, read about folktales. For each numbered blank, there is a list of words. Choose the word from each list that best completes the paragraph.

A folktale is a special kind of story. Long ago, many people could not _____ 9 _____ or write. This meant that they could not read stories from a book. They also could not write their stories. But they could do something else. They could create _____ 10 _____ in their mind. They could then tell these stories aloud. These stories would be told by others over and over again for many years. That is how _____ 11 _____ began.

9. (A) decide
(B) think
(C) read
(D) talk
10. (A) words
(B) stories
(C) pictures
(D) thoughts
11. (A) stories
(B) ideas
(C) writing
(D) folktales

For Numbers 12 and 13, read the passage. Then answer the questions.

The folktale about the spider tells how the moon came to be in the sky. Of course, this is not how the moon really came to be in the sky. But long ago, people did not know how to explain things. They did not understand what the moon or the sun was. So, folktales became a way of making up a story to tell about such things.

12. Long ago, people did not understand
(A) what a folktale was.
(B) how to explain spiders.
(C) how to make up stories.
(D) what the moon was.
13. Which of these best explains why some folktales were made up?
(A) They were a way to practice reading.
(B) They were a fun way to pass the time.
(C) They explained things that people did not understand.
(D) They were a way to explain how to make up stories.



Read the sentences for Numbers 14 and 15. Find the sentence that tells something that could not really happen.

14. (A) Birds were chirping in the trees.
(B) The leaves of the trees blew in the wind.
(C) The trees asked the birds to be quiet.
(D) The baby birds were hungry.

15. (A) Jason tried on his new jacket.
(B) Jason wished he had bought a different jacket.
(C) "Why don't you like me?" asked the jacket.
(D) Jason and his father bought the jacket on Tuesday.



Writing

You have read a folktale that told how the moon came to be in the sky. But what about the sun? How do you think the sun came to be in the sky? Write two or three sentences that could be part of a folktale that tells how the sun came to be in the sky.

