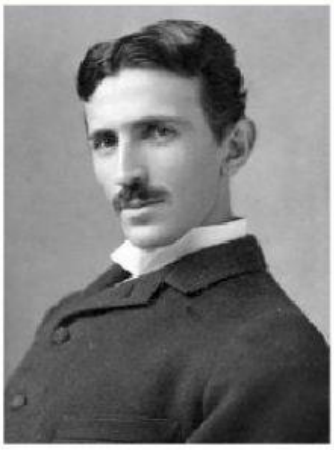
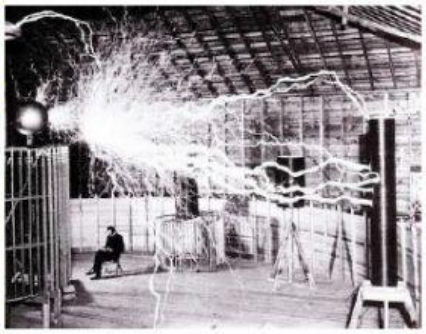
PAST SIMPLE – regular/ irregular verbs

Nikola Tesla (1856-1943) Croatian Inventor



Nikola Tesla _____ (be) born on **10th July 1856** in **Smiljan**, small village in **Croatia** (then part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire). His father _____ (be) a Serbian Orthodox priest and his mother _____ (take) care of the family's farm. Nikola _____ (say) that he _____ (must) to thank her for his creative abilities and near photographic memory - he _____ (can) memorize entire books and recite them at will. Tesla _____ (speak) **eight languages**: Serbian, Latin, German, Hungarian, Italian, Czech, French and English.
He _____ (use) to say "I'm proud of my Serbian origin and my Croatian homeland".

When Tesla's brother Daniel _____ (die) in an accident, it _____ (be) a shock to the 7-year-old Nikola. He then _____ (start) to have **visions**, important also in his later life.
Tesla _____ (go) to the gymnasium in Carlstadt (Karlovac, Croatia). When performing calculus equations in his head his teachers _____ (think) he _____ (be) cheating. He _____ (love) mathematics and science. Tesla's father, however insisted that he enter the priesthood. After his recovery from cholera father _____ (send) him to the Polytechnic school in Graz, Austria in 1875. He _____ (be) excellent there. He _____ (begin) each day at 3:00 a.m. and _____ (work) until 11:00 p.m..
In school Tesla _____ (be) obsessed with a new **direct current** (**DC**) dynamo as he _____ (know) better solution: electric power created by **alternating current** (**AC**).



At the age of 28, working for Edison, he _____ (move) from France to New York City with only four cents in his pocket. One day Tesla _____ (tell) Edison that he _____ (can) improve his motors and generators. Edison _____ (promise) him 50.000 dollars. After several months Tesla _____ (improve) the motor but when he _____ (ask) about payment, Edison _____ (tell) him that he _____ (be) only joking. Tesla immediately _____ (resign).
Later he _____ (found) the *Tesla Electric Company* and _____ (patent) his AC motors.



After many years of debate in so called **'War of the Currents'** Tesla _____ (demonstrate) at ***1893 World Fair in Chicago,*** the safety of AC power with his new **phosphorescent lighting** and his gigantic **'Tesla coils'**. It _____ (be) a key event in the history of electricity.



Tesla and Westinghouse with the *General Electric* company _____ (create) **the first modern power station** at **Niagara Falls**.
Tesla also _____ (make) important research in radiant energy (later called **X-ray**), and on the fundamentals of **radio**.
Tesla _____ (have) an eccentric private life. He never _____ (sleep) for more than two hours at a time. He _____ (live) alone in a hotel suite. He also _____ (have) several obsessions: a phobia of germs (when meeting people, he _____ (not want) to shake hands), round objects (especially jewelry), the number three and also feeding pigeons... Tesla _____ (say) this behavior _____ (make) his concentration on the experiments better.
On 7th January 1943, at the age of 86, Nikola Tesla _____ (die) in New York a poor and reclusive man. He _____ (had) 700 patents. His legacy, however, continues to move on.

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