

Read this text carefully and answer the questions according to the text.

ZAINABU'S STORY

Zainabu lives in Tanzania. She has just finished primary school and is hoping to go to secondary school. She has been doing well at school but her family is very poor so it is a struggle* for her to stay in school.

It has been free to go to primary school in Tanzania since 2001 when school fees were abolished by the government. However, if families want their children to go to secondary school, they have to pay fees.

I am living a very difficult life. My father left us when we were very young. My mother works as a casual labourer on other people's farms to get money to buy us food and to pay for other things like medicine and school supplies.

For the past three years my mother has faced problems getting work. There has been a very bad drought** and this meant there is often no work for her. Whenever I ask her for money to pay for the school uniform, shoes and exercise books my mother can never afford it. The school also asks for contributions to pay for the cook, the toilets... At the moment we owe the school £1.80 which we cannot pay. I am under pressure to leave school to find work – my sisters tell me that school is a waste of time.

When I come home after school I also face difficulties. We often have to go to other people's houses to ask for food. We sometimes have to go to sleep without eating at all or just have porridge as our dinner. I am also asked to go and fetch*** water, which takes three hours.

Education is important because it could change my life. Our house is in very bad shape and if I got some money I could fix it. We try to block every hole in our walls and ceiling so the rain doesn't fall on our bed. If I got my education, I could become a teacher or anything else I wanted to. I would build a home for my mother.

During my free time I like to read. Sometimes there is no oil for the light at home so we sit in the dark and I sometimes use a candle to read. I think if my mother had got an education, we would not have such a difficult life now. One day, I would like to become a teacher.

Source: @ActionAid, <http://www.sendmyfriend.org>
Photo: Kate Holt/Shoot the Earth/ActionAid

GLOSSARY:

* struggle: a very difficult task. En català vol dir 'lluita'.

** drought: a prolonged period of abnormally low rainfall, leading to a shortage of water. En català vol dir 'sequera'. *** fetch: go for and then bring back. En català vol dir 'anar a buscar, portar'.

In Tanzania...

- a. all education is free.
- b. only primary education is free.
- c. you only have to pay for the books.

Zainabu's father...

- a. was a farmer.
- b. abandoned her.
- c. died when she was a baby.

Her mother earns a salary.

- a. low
- b. good
- c. competitive

When she says "my mother can never afford it" she means that her mother to pay for school supplies.

- a. always gives her the money
- b. hasn't got enough money
- c. doesn't want

Her family wants her to...

- a. continue her studies.
- b. stay at home.
- c. start working.

According to Zinabu, what is the key to success?

- a. Education
- b. Money
- c. Family

What sentence about Zainabu's house is TRUE?

- a. It has been recently renovated.
- b. It needs some repairs.
- c. It is comfortable.

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In her house there is...

- a. electricity all day long.
- b. electricity only at nights.
- c. no electricity.

In the future she would like to...

- a. find her father.
- b. become a teacher.
- c. renovate her house.

Zainabu is with her life.

- a. bored
- b. pleased
- c. unhappy

Which is the correct order of the following facts about Zainabu as they appear in the text?

a. D B A C b. B A D

A.
After school she has to work at home.

C c. C D B A

B.
Her mother has many problems to find a job.

C.
She thinks she could build a house if she got education.

D.
Her family is very poor.

Find an alternative title for the text that summarises the main idea. a.

- A story about education in Africa.
- b. Africa, the land of opportunities.
- c. Girl looking for a pen pal*.

The objective of the text is to...

- a. inform about schools in Tanzania.
- b. describe Zainabu's trip to Tanzania.
- c. explain the difficulties Zainabu has in her daily life.

GLOSSARY:

* pen pal: amic per correspondència.

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PEOPLE WHO HAVE SHAPED THE WORLD WE LIVE IN

In the digital era, we are used to having technological changes every day. People like Tim Berners-Lee, who invented the Internet, Bill Gates, who founded *Microsoft*, Steve Jobs, who founded *Apple*, Sergey Brin and Larry Page, who designed *Google*, and Mark Zuckerberg, who created *Facebook*, are great computer experts and businessmen who have influenced the whole Information Age.

However, before them, there were also other great inventors and scientists who contributed to shape the world we live in now, like, for instance:

Thomas Alva Edison invented early versions of the cell phone or the digital camera. He invented the phonograph in 1877, the motion picture camera in 1891 and the alkaline storage battery in 1901. But that is not all: without Edison, who in 1879 invented the light bulb, we would all be in the dark! He also worked on X-rays and the first talking doll. When he died in 1931 he had attained great fame and fortune with his 1,093 patents. His motto was "Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration*."

Nettie Maria Stevens was a biologist and an early American geneticist. In 1905, she discovered the sex of a person is determined by the "X" or "Y" chromosome. This discovery gave a great impulse to genetics.

Henry Ford was known as "the man who put America on wheels". His first automobile was called the Quadricycle because it had four wheels. He rode it through the streets of Detroit. In 1913 he set up the first automobile assembly line**, and the cars were made faster and cheaper than ever. Henry Ford said lots of interesting things like: "Don't find a fault. Find a remedy."

Sir Alexander Fleming was a biologist and pharmacologist. In 1928 he revolutionized all medicine by accidentally discovering penicillin, one of the world's first antibiotics or bacteria killer. Even though he had a solid reputation as a great researcher, Fleming's lab and workspace were often very messy. This actually led to the discovery of penicillin. In 1945 he received the Nobel Prize in Medicine. Penicillin has saved, and is still saving, millions of people around the world.

Rachel Carson, the mother of the environmental movement, was the first person to realize the dangers of pesticides for animals and human beings. In 1962 she published *Silent Spring*. The book gave her readers a terrible shock, showing a spring without birds. It helped shape a growing environmental consciousness.

GLOSSARY:

* perspiration: sweat. En català vol dir 'suor'.

** assembly line: a line of machines and workers in a factory that a product moves along while it is being built or produced.
En català vol dir 'cadena de muntatge'.

What did Edison invent first?

- a. The light bulb.
- b. The phonograph.
- c. The motion picture camera.

Nettie Maria Stevens discovered...

- a. the chromosomes.
- b. the factor that determines the chromosomes.
- c. the sex of a person is determined by specific chromosomes.

Thanks to Henry Ford...

- a. bikes became famous in America.
- b. cars had bigger wheels than before.
- c. more people could buy a car in America.

Ford's cars were the cars before.

- a. as cheap as
- b. cheaper than
- c. more expensive than

Ford's quote "Don't find a fault. Find a remedy" means that you should... a.

- find a solution for a problem instead of complaining about it. **b.** find the person who is responsible for a mistake.
- c. ask others to solve the problem.

Sir Alexander Fleming...

- a. discovered the penicillin by accident.
- b. won an award in pharmacology.
- c. was a dentist.

What sentence about penicillin is TRUE?

- a. It is the best antibiotic that exists.
- b. It wasn't accepted by doctors at the beginning.

c. It was one of the first antibiotics to be identified.

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Fleming was a person.

- a. clean
- b. disorganized
- c. meticulous

Rachel Carson wrote...

- a. scientific books.
- b. children books.
- c. novels.

She thought that pesticides were for animals.

- a. beneficial
- b. dangerous
- c. necessary

Our world is the way it is thanks to...

- a. people interested in making money.
- b. computer experts of the Information Age.
- c. innovative people who have lived before us.

The text is about inventions that...

- a. still influence the way we live today.
- b. don't influence the way we live today any longer.
- c. haven't influenced the way we live today.