



Young Thomas Edison

I. Choose the letter of the best answer.

1. What is this article **MOSTLY** about?
 - a. the lightbulb
 - b. a teacher
 - c. a young inventor
 - d. the first telegraph

2. The genre of the story “Young Thomas Edison” is a biography. A **Biography** _____.
 - a. sums up the main idea and supporting details
 - b. tells about a person’s life
 - c. looks for details that tell you more about the main idea
 - d. lists details in sequence

3. Why did people start to call Edison "**The Wizard**"?

- a. He hired lots of people.
- b. He made many inventions.
- c. He always asked questions.
- d. He blew up a large number of things.

4. What was Edison's **FIRST** job?

- a. inventor
- b. paper boy
- c. railroad worker
- d. telegraph operator

5. How can the reader tell that Edison loved to read?

- a. He was often daydreaming.
- b. He spent all day at the library.
- c. He bought many books.
- d. He got a job selling newspapers.

6. Why did Edison lose his job at the railroad office?

- a. He was sleeping at work.
- b. He set up a lab in the station.
- c. He started a fire in the building.
- d. He spent his work hours reading.

7. Which sentence from the article shows that Edison's mother kept helping him even **after** he left home?

- a. "Mrs. Edison made sure he received an excellent education."
- b. "He would miss her letters—her advice and encouragement."
- c. "Al's mother him out of school after only three months."
- d. "He went home and set up his laboratory again with the encouragement of his mother."

II. Use context clues to figure out the meaning of the words in bold. Choose the letter of the best answer. (2 points each)

8. Which word **BEST** completes the sentence below?

You need to plug in the lamp because it runs on _____ power.

- a. electric
- b. gas
- c. muscle
- d. water

9. Which word **BEST** completes the sentence below?

Dr. Simmons did an _____ to find out what happens to plants that do not get any sunlight.

- a. action
- b. adventure
- c. experiment
- d. infection

10. What does the word **invention** mean in the sentence below?

Yuri built an **invention** that makes his bed for him.

- a. original device
- b. old machine
- c. idea
- d. alarm

11. What does the word **laboratory** mean in the sentence below?

Thomas Edison spent many hours in his **laboratory** trying to make a light bulb.

- a. a place where a scientist eats
- b. a house where a scientist lives
- c. a room where a scientist sleeps
- d. a place where a scientist works

12. What does the word **genius** mean in the sentence below?

Like Ben Franklin, Thomas Edison was a **genius**.

- a. a person who likes science
- b. a person who is very smart
- c. a person who lived long ago
- d. a person who enjoys reading

III. Answer the following questions. Remember to use complete sentences.

1. Why did Young Al's mother take him out of school?
2. Why did he find a job at a very young age?
3. What are two character traits an inventor should have?