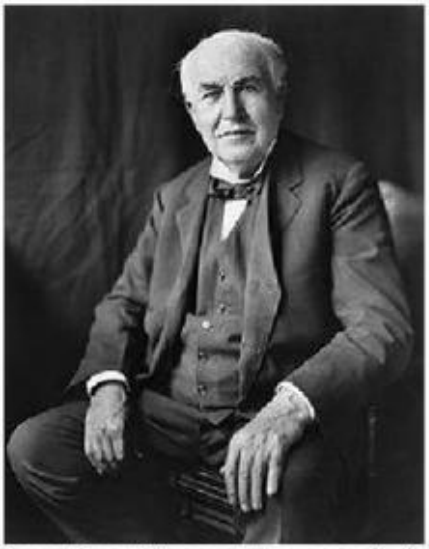
Complete the Stories with the Past Simple form of the verbs in brackets:



Thomas Edison

Thomas Edison (1) _____ (be) born in 1847 in Ohio in the United States. He (2) _____ (start) school at the age of eight but he (3) _____ (hate) it because on his first day the teacher (4) _____ (call) him stupid. After that, he (5) _____ (stay) at home a Lot of the time and (6) _____ (have) Lessons from his mother. He also (7)_____(read) a Lot of science books at home. He (8) _____ (go) back to school sometimes but he never (9) _____ (like) it very much. He (10) _____ (leave) school forever at the age of twelve and (11) _____ (get) a job with a newsagent. He (12) _____ (begin) inventing things at the age of nineteen. In 1877 he (13) _____ (invent) the phonograph, a sort of very early CD player! Two years later, he (14) _____ (make) the world's first electric Light bulb and New York (15) _____ (become) the first city to have electric lights.

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Ada Lovelace

Ada Byron _____ (be born) in London on 10 December, 1815. She _____ (be) the daughter of the famous British poet, Lord Byron and his wife, Annabella. Five weeks later, her parents _____ (separate). Her mother _____ (not want) Ada to be a poet like her father, so she _____ (teach) her Maths and Science. Ada was a Maths genius but she also had her father's imagination.

In 1828, when she was only thirteen, Ada _____ (design) a flying machine. Then, when she was eighteen, Ada _____ (meet) the inventor, Charles Babbage. She _____ (help) him with his work and he had a big influence on her life.

Ada _____ (marry) Lord Lovelace in 1835 and they _____ (have) three children. After that, she _____ (work) with Babbage on his new calculating machine. In 1843, she _____ (write) an article about it with a plan for calculating numbers. This plan was the first computer program.

Ada _____ (have) an important influence on computer history because she _____ (predict) the modern computer. In 1980, when American scientists _____ (invent) a new computer language, they called it ADA. Ada ¬_____ (die) on 27 November, 1852, at the age of 36.

LIVEWORKSHEETS