

# THOMAS EDISON

*Read the text and choose the correct word.*

On the night of 21 October 1931, millions of Americans (0)\_\_\_\_\_ part in a coast-to-coast ceremony to commemorate the passing of a great man. Lights (1)\_\_\_\_\_ in homes and offices from New York to California. The ceremony (2)\_\_\_\_\_ the death of arguably the most important inventor of (3)\_\_\_\_\_ time: Thomas Alva Edison.

Few inventors have (4)\_\_\_\_\_ such an impact on everyday life, and many of his inventions played a crucial (5)\_\_\_\_\_ in the development of modern technology. One should never (6)\_\_\_\_\_ how revolutionary some of Edison's inventions were.

In many ways, Edison is the perfect example of an inventor - that is, not just someone who (7)\_\_\_\_\_ up clever gadgets, but someone who products transform the lives of millions. He possessed the key characteristics that an inventor needs to (8)\_\_\_\_\_ a success of inventions, notably sheer determination. Edison famously tried thousands of materials while working on a new type of battery, reacting to failure by cheerfully (9)\_\_\_\_\_ to his colleagues: "Well, (10)\_\_\_\_\_ we know 8,000 things that don't work." Knowing when to take no (11)\_\_\_\_\_ of experts is also important. Edison's proposal for electric lighting circuitry was (12)\_\_\_\_\_ with total disbelief by eminent scientists, until he lit up whole streets with his lights.

