

# Unit 8 Solutions

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# Bright ideas

## Keynotes

In the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, **inventions** and new technology changed the world. Many of these things, for example, **electricity**, cars and computers, made life easier. But they also **created** new **problems**, for example, we produce and use four times more **energy** today than we did 50 years ago, and now we need to look for **solutions**. In the twenty-first century, we need to find new types of **power**.

Preview **1** Match the dates with the inventions.

1879    1903    1865    1783    1810



1 \_\_\_\_\_



3 \_\_\_\_\_



5 \_\_\_\_\_



2 \_\_\_\_\_



4 \_\_\_\_\_

Speaking

**2** Label the pictures 1-5 with these words.

a battery    electricity    the sun    oil    gas

**3** What do the things in exercise 1 use to make them work? Complete the sentences with the words in exercise 2.

- 1 A lantern uses \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 Solar power uses \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 A light bulb uses \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 A torch uses \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 A gas lamp uses \_\_\_\_\_.

**1** What products do you own that use batteries? Name three things that you have in your office or home that use electricity.

**2** Which type of energy (oil, solar, electricity, batteries or gas) do you think is best? Why?

Reading 1

**1** Some people in the world don't have electricity in their home. How many, do you think?

a 60 million    b 600 million    c 1.6 billion

Read the article on the opposite page and check your answer.

**2** Read the article again and answer the questions.

- 1 What countries does the article mention?
- 2 What are the disadvantages of oil lanterns?
- 3 What are the four ways that LED lights helped people?

**3** Complete the sentences from the article.

- 1 Dr Irvine-Halliday \_\_\_\_\_ on a walking trip to Nepal.
- 2 People in the villages \_\_\_\_\_ lanterns to light their homes.
- 3 He \_\_\_\_\_ the Light Up The World Foundation.
- 4 When people began to use LED lights, it \_\_\_\_\_ their lives.

**4** What are the advantages of LED lighting? What is the main problem with LED lights at the moment?



a torch



a lantern



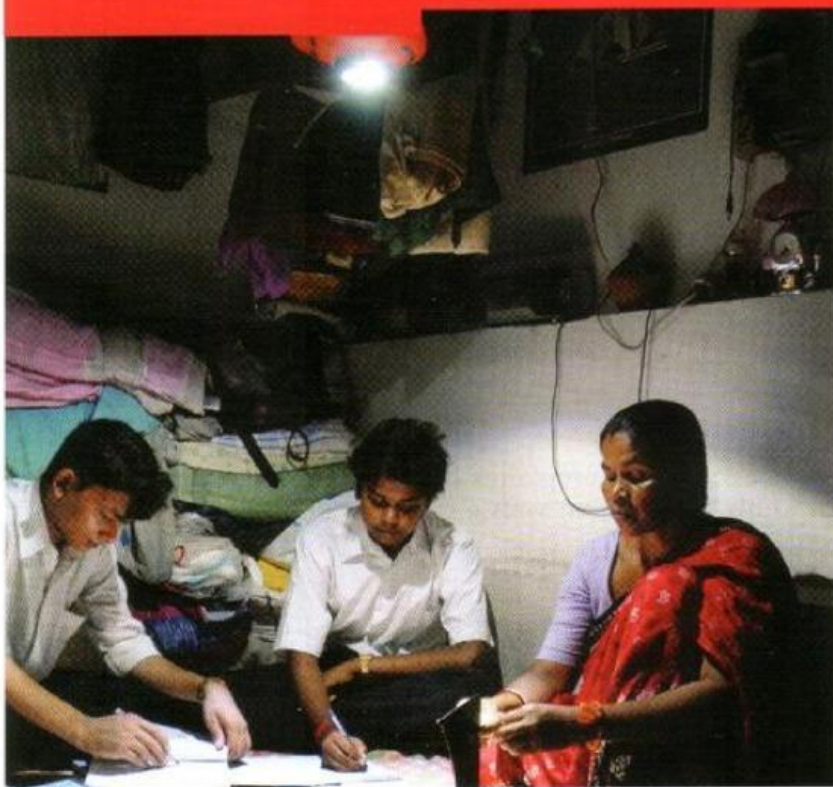
solar power



a light bulb



a gas lamp



## Practical solutions

## Lighting up the world

LED lights help in areas without electricity

<sup>1</sup> Dr Irvine-Halliday is a professor of electrical engineering at the University of Calgary in Canada. Dr Irvine-Halliday went on a walking trip to Nepal in 1997 and he saw that people in the villages used lanterns to light their homes. The lanterns were smelly and dangerous and the light wasn't very bright. Dr Irvine-Halliday wanted to help solve the problem. So, he started the Light Up The World Foundation. It is a charity that gives LED lights to thousands of people around the world.

<sup>2</sup> About 1.6 billion people worldwide don't have electricity. They use oil in their lamps. But it is an expensive fuel. It is also inefficient and causes indoor and outdoor air pollution.

<sup>3</sup> LED lights are an ideal solution to the problem. They only need a little power and this means that people can use them in areas where there is no electricity. They can run on AA batteries, or solar power. LEDs can give up to 100 times more light than lanterns, and they last a long time. When people began to

use LED lights, it changed their lives. They increased productivity and it gave them more time to study. It also reduced health problems and accidental fires.

<sup>4</sup> Now, it is important to make LEDs less expensive. For example, families in rural Kenya spend about \$7 a month on oil for lighting. A solar-powered LED lamp lasts longer, but many people cannot afford the \$25 to \$50 that the lamps cost to buy. When charities and other organisations find a solution to the price problem, the future could be bright. ■

The Economist

## Speaking

**1** Do you think these things are good or bad – do they improve our life or not? Give reasons for your answers.

mobile phones   refrigerators   the internet   microwave ovens   television

*I think refrigerators are useful because they keep food cold.*

*I think television is bad because it stops families talking in the evening.*

**2** What things did people do for communication and entertainment before they had electricity?

**Vocabulary** 1 Which words in the box refer to people and which refer to places?

professor      university      laboratory      workshop  
scientists      technician

2 Complete the sentences with the words above.

- 1 He studied science at the \_\_\_\_\_ of Heidelberg.
- 2 We have modern scientific equipment in the new \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 The \_\_\_\_\_ began their experiments two years ago.
- 4 The lights were manufactured in a large \_\_\_\_\_ in Taiwan.
- 5 A \_\_\_\_\_ is a skilled scientific or industrial worker.
- 6 Dr Charles Milton is a \_\_\_\_\_ of Engineering at Oxford.

**Listening 1** 

1 Lou works in the complaints department of an electricity company. Listen to his conversation with a customer and answer the questions.

- 1 What is the customer's problem?
- 2 What is Lou's solution?

2 Listen again. Are these sentences true or false?

- 1 The customer doesn't have an account number. *false*
- 2 The engineer arrived on Thursday morning.
- 3 The engineer left after five minutes.
- 4 He didn't return in the afternoon.
- 5 The customer doesn't have a meeting in the morning.
- 6 Lou arranges for the engineer to visit at twelve o'clock.

**Language check**

**Past simple negative, question and short answer**

Study the examples and complete the sentences in the table.

- a He *didn't* return.
- b *When did* the engineer arrive?
- c *Did they solve* the problem?
- d Yes, they *did*. No, they *didn't*.

| Past simple                             |                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Negative                                | Open question                                                  |
| I, You, etc. <sup>1</sup> _____ [verb]. | What <sup>2</sup> _____ I, you, etc. [verb]?                   |
| Closed question                         | Short answer                                                   |
| Did I, you, etc. [verb]?                | Yes, I, you, etc. did.<br>No, I, you, etc. <sup>3</sup> _____. |

The verb to be does not use the auxiliary *did*.

*I wasn't* in a meeting. *They weren't* on time.

*Were* you the person who spoke to the customer? Yes, *I was*. / No, *I wasn't*.



For more information, see page 160.

## Practice

**1** Look at the sentences about the article on page 69. Make them negative.

- 1 Dr Irvine-Halliday went on a walking trip to Norway.  
*Dr Irvine-Halliday didn't go on a walking trip to Norway.*
- 2 The villagers used electricity in their homes.
- 3 The lanterns were very bright.
- 4 Dr Irvine-Halliday was a professor of medicine.
- 5 He made a profit from the LED lights.
- 6 The LED lights increased health problems.

**2** Complete the questions and answers using *did*, *didn't*, *was*, *wasn't*, *were* and *weren't*.

- 1 When did Alessandro Volta invent the battery?
- 2 I think it \_\_\_\_\_ in 1928.
- 3 No, it \_\_\_\_\_. It \_\_\_\_\_ in 1800.



- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ Percy Shaw invent the microwave oven?
- 5 No, he \_\_\_\_\_. The inventor \_\_\_\_\_ Percy LeBaron Spencer.



- 6 Who \_\_\_\_\_ Bernard Silver and Norman Woodland?
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ they writers?
- 8 No, they \_\_\_\_\_. They \_\_\_\_\_ postgraduate students who invented the barcode.



**3** Write questions for a technology quiz.

- 1 Theodore Maiman / build / first laser?  
*Did Theodore Maiman build the first laser? Yes, he did.*
- 2 When / IBM / produce / first personal computer?
- 3 John Logie Baird / invent / radio?
- 4 Who / Carlton C Magee?
- 5 What / Alexander Graham Bell / invent?
- 6 What country / Guglielmo Marconi / from?

**4** Take turns to ask and answer the questions. The answers are on page 149.

## Speaking

Work with a partner. Take turns to ask and answer questions about when you were younger. Think of more questions to ask.

- like / school? *Did you like school?*  
 visit / other countries?  
 have / a pet animal?  
 live / city?  
 play / sport?  
 go / college?

## Reading 2

### 1 Read the text below and answer the questions.

- 1 Where was Edison born?
- 2 Did all Edison's inventions succeed the first time?
- 3 Who helped him develop his inventions?

### 2 Use the prompts to write questions. Then read the text again and answer them.

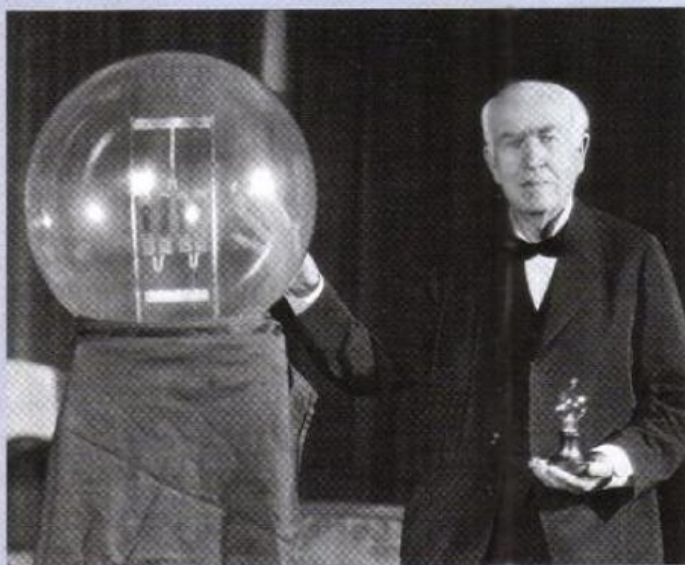
- 1 Edison's teachers / think he was clever?  
*Did Edison's teachers think he was clever? No, they didn't.*
- 2 Edison / develop / 1,303 inventions?
- 3 Why / Edison / think / failures / be / important?
- 4 Who / he / marry?
- 5 When / Edison / create / Edison Electric Light Company?
- 6 What / Edison Electric Light Company / become?
- 7 Where / he / build / his research laboratory?
- 8 When / he / die?

## Finding solutions: Thomas Alva Edison

Thomas Edison was a great inventor. He thought that every technological problem had a solution. Edison developed more than 1,093 inventions. They included the electric light bulb, the typewriter and an early movie camera. Sometimes he did thousands of experiments to get an invention right. He worked on some ideas for many years to improve the product. Edison thought that his failures were important because he and his scientists learned from each one. 'I failed my way to success,' he said.

### Important dates

- 1847** Edison was born in Ohio in the USA. At school, his teachers thought that he wasn't clever so his mother educated him at home.
- 1871** Married Mary Stilwell.
- 1878** He created the Edison Electric Light Company. Later it became the General Electric Company.
- 1887** He built an invention factory in Menlo Park, near New York City. It was the world's first research laboratory. A team of scientists helped Edison develop his inventions.
- 1931** Died in New Jersey, USA.



### Glossary

**experiment (n)** a scientific test

**failure (n)** something that doesn't succeed

**success (n)** something that succeeds

## Speaking

- 1 What inventors come from your country? What did they invent?
- 2 Do you think it is important to learn from failure? Why? / Why not?

## Explaining a technical problem

Sometimes we need to explain a technical problem. It is useful to say what the problem is and then explain what we did. Look at the following examples.

- a *It doesn't work.*
- b *I turned on [the computer].*
- c *I plugged in [the computer].*
- d *The [keyboard] didn't work.*
- e *Can you fix it?*
- f *There's something wrong with [the keyboard].*

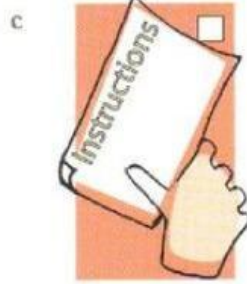
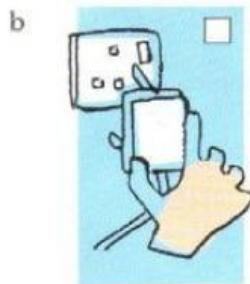
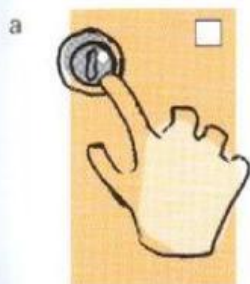
## Listening 2

**1** Listen to a conversation between a customer and a sales assistant. Number the phrases a-f above in the order you hear them.

**2** Listen again and number the pictures a-d in the correct order. Label the pictures with these sentences.

I turned on the computer.  
I read the instructions.

The keyboard didn't work.  
I plugged in the computer.



## Speaking

Work with a partner. Take turns to practise the conversation below between a sales assistant and a customer. If necessary, check the information your partner gives.

Sales assistant

Customer

Can I help?

Explain you bought a TV from the shop last week. It doesn't work.

Ask what problem is.

Respond: Turned on TV - no picture.

Ask if read the instructions.

Respond: Yes.

Apologise for the problem.

Ask if he/she can fix it.

Agree to fix the TV.

Thank sales assistant for his/her help.