



## 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?