



GREAT INVENTIONS

THE LIGHT BULB

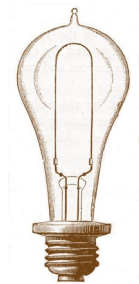


Yesterday we had an experience that we will not forget for a long time. There was a huge storm in the city, and the lights went out. We were totally in the dark and couldn't see anything around us. It was then that I began to think about the importance of the light and how people lived thousands of years ago.



At the beginning of time, people used the sun and fire to get light. With fire, they had to be careful not to cause fires. Gradually, they perfected the use of fire and began using wax candles to get light. You also had to be careful using candles not to cause fires and to be sure to have enough ventilation.

In the 19th century, electricity began to be used to illuminate houses and streets. One of the most influential figures in the development of electricity was Mr. Thomas Alva Edison. He invented the light bulb in 1879. It was the first bulb with a carbon filament. The filaments in the bulbs were made with a metal called tungsten. When the tungsten was heated, the metal would shine like a white light. Each filament and wire is wrapped in a glass globe, so oxygen could not get it. This protected the tungsten from being destroyed so it could produce light.



Because of the invention of the light bulb and electric lamps, we can light a room for hours without using something else. It is considered one of the most important and useful inventions of the 19th century.

A fun fact, the longest working bulb is located in Livermore, California, USA. This bulb has been working over 100 years since it was first installed in a fire station. In fact, it is written in the Guinness Book of Records.

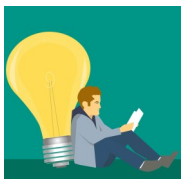
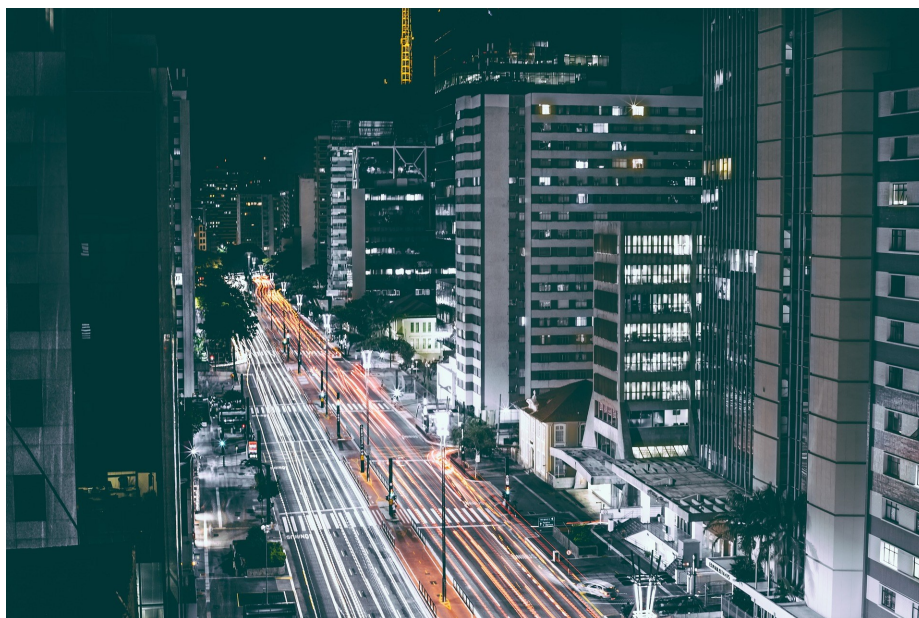


Centennial Bulb



The many diverse uses of light bulbs: lamps in a house, streetlights, machine lights, and car headlights.

The truth is that although I am not afraid of the dark, I am grateful to be able to turn on the light in my room whenever I want. Good thing the storm stopped and the light was restored so we could return to our normal lives.



Name_____

Date_____



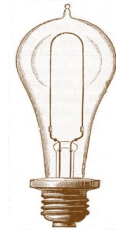
THE LIGHT BULB



Answer the questions.

1. What does the word **tungsten** mean in the text?

- a. Turn on easily
- b. A light bulb
- c. It is a metal that shines when heated.
- d. It is a method to create crystal balloons.



2. Because of the invention of light bulbs, _____

- a. we can cook.
- b. we can be afraid of the dark.
- c. we can light a room for a long time.
- d. we can invent light.

3. Where can the longest working light bulb be found?

- a. In a book of light bulbs
- b. In a city in Europe
- c. In a police station
- d. In an American fire station



4. Why do you have to be careful when burning candles?

- a. There is a danger of fire.
- b. It wears out.
- c. They are expensive.
- d. They can give a lot of light.

5. Some of the inventions that have been made thanks to the electricity are_____.

- a. Candles
- b. Light bulbs and spotlights of cars
- c. The Guinness Books of Records
- d. Fire stations

6. If the light bulb hadn't been invented, _____

- a. it would be easy to read at night.
- b. it would be difficult to operate on a patient in the operating room.
- c. it would be easy to drive when it was dark.
- d. it would be hard to nap.



7. Candles, matches, and lighters should not be used by adults.

- a. True
- b. False



8. Write an example of what would happen without electricity and a solution to the problem.

9. What does the word illuminate mean?

- a. To calm
- b. Brutalize
- c. Light up
- d. Electrocute



10. Why do light bulbs have a carbon filament?

- a. They need air inside the globe.
- b. They serve to give a yellow light.
- c. They have to be hot inside a balloon.
- d. Without it, bulbs would not give light.

