

Name _____

Thomas Edison: Sparks of Innovation

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Thomas Edison's early experiences and his mother's influence played a significant role in shaping his lifelong passion for invention and innovation. His mother's encouragement of his love for reading and learning nurtured his curiosity and thirst for knowledge. His experiences as a young telegraph operator exposed him to technology and communication systems, sparking his interest in practical inventions.
2. The invention of the incandescent light bulb by Thomas Edison had a profound impact on society and daily life. It provided a reliable and practical source of electric lighting, revolutionizing industries, homes, and cities. It improved safety, extended the workday, and enhanced the overall quality of life by making light readily available at any time.
3. Thomas Edison had a unique attitude towards failure. He famously said, "I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work." This quote reflects his belief that failure was not a setback but rather a valuable learning experience. Edison saw each failure as a step closer to success, and this mindset allowed him to persistently experiment and innovate.
4. Thomas Edison made significant contributions to both the field of electricity and the world of entertainment through inventions like the phonograph and the motion picture camera. The phonograph allowed for the recording and reproduction of sound, revolutionizing the music and entertainment industries. The motion picture camera played a crucial role in the development of the film industry, enabling the creation of moving images and movies.

