

Let There Be Light

By Kennady Perrenoud

I believe that the lightbulb was a significant invention for our world and has dramatically impacted our lives today. If I could go back and witness any historical event, it would be the day Thomas Edison succeeded in making a lightbulb that efficiently worked in small spaces, such as a person's home. Before Edison's home bulb, arc lamps had already been invented but the light emitted from these lamps was too strong to keep in small spaces. These arc lamps are what inspired Edison to create an invention that would forever change the lives of people all over the world.

Thomas Edison searched laboriously for twenty - nine years to find the perfect filament for his lightbulb. He had his own glass blowing shed for the glass bulb, but finding a filament to conduct the energy proved to be the most difficult task. He practiced with over six - thousand different materials before discovering carbon filament, which is what was used in the final Edison lightbulb in 1879. This filament easily conducted energy and lasted for hours, it was undoubtedly the most fit for his bulbs. When Edison found this carbon material and finished his experiments with numerous filaments and produced the best light bulb, he had begun to affect the lives of people then, and the lives of people today.

After Thomas Edison's successes, he created the first light bulb manufacturer company with Joseph Swan. This company produced efficient light bulbs for anybody to buy and use. If he had not found the perfect filament for his bulbs, and had not partnered with Swan to begin a manufacturing company, it is possible that people today may not have the access to lightbulbs that we do and our lives would be dramatically different. Without light in our homes, our night, and even daytime lives, could be astonishingly contrary to what they are today.

Imagine going through your daily life without light in your home or work setting. I have first-hand experience with that, and that is the reason I chose this moment in history. I know what it is like to live without power and rely on oil lamps. I spent about six years residing in a house that was generated off of solar power, but we often chose not to use this power source because it had very little effect. Instead, we used oil lamps. Oil lamps emitted more light than our alternative power source and therefore were more efficient for our lives. It was sometimes very difficult to live without effective power because most of our daily tasks require light, and on days when sunlight was scarce, it proved to be very difficult to do basic chores, such as clean the laundry or cook dinner for the family.

When you go years without power, it is easy to realize just how much we take advantage of what we have, that people did not even encounter in the past. I think if I lived an entire life without light bulbs in my home, I would be ecstatic when I heard that they were available for the common person. I imagine great happiness when the lightbulb was invented because I am sure that people knew it was a major turn of events for everybody. I would be so grateful to be able to experience something that I knew would have such a positive outcome on my life and those after me.

I believe that anybody can do anything to help in this world, some big and some small, but overall, it can and will have a major impact on the lives of the people. I think that Thomas Edison showed that through hard work, even if it takes twenty - nine years, you should always work for something you're passionate

about. If you believe that you can take action to change something and have a positive impact in this world, then do not give up, because with determination anybody can change the lives of so many people. In conclusion, I believe that the invention of the light bulb brought happiness and rest to so many people's lives, and with that, the belief that this world will have many more industrial breakthroughs, and inspired an abundance of hope and creative minds.