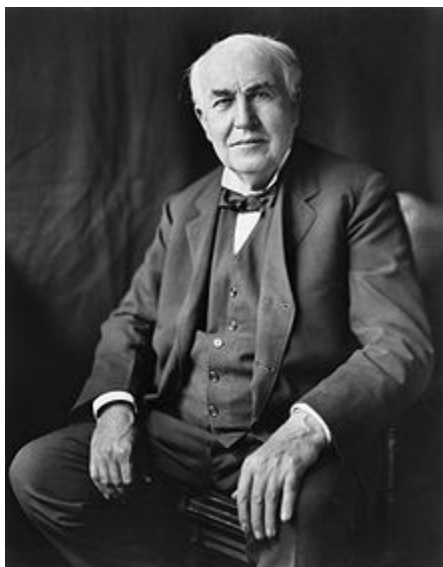


**Complete the Stories with the Past Simple form of the verbs in brackets:**



### **Thomas Edison**

Thomas Edison (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (be) born in 1847 in Ohio in the United States. He (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (start) school at the age of eight but he (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (hate) it because on his first day the teacher (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (call) him stupid. After that, he (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (stay) at home a lot of the time and (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (have) lessons from his mother. He also (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (read) a lot of science books at home. He (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (go) back to school sometimes but he never (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (like) it very much. He (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (leave) school forever at the age of twelve and (11) \_\_\_\_\_ (get) a job with a newsagent. He (12) \_\_\_\_\_ (begin) inventing things at the age of nineteen. In 1877 he (13) \_\_\_\_\_ (invent) the phonograph, a sort of very early CD player! Two years later, he (14) \_\_\_\_\_ (make) the world's first electric light bulb and New York (15) \_\_\_\_\_ (become) the first city to have electric lights.



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### **Ada Lovelace**

Ada Byron \_\_\_\_\_ (be born) in London on 10 December, 1815. She \_\_\_\_\_ (be) the daughter of the famous British poet, Lord Byron and his wife, Annabella. Five weeks later, her parents \_\_\_\_\_ (separate). Her mother \_\_\_\_\_ (not want) Ada to be a poet like her father, so she \_\_\_\_\_ (teach) her Maths and Science. Ada was a Maths genius but she also had her father's imagination.

In 1828, when she was only thirteen, Ada \_\_\_\_\_ (design) a flying machine. Then, when she was eighteen, Ada \_\_\_\_\_ (meet) the inventor, Charles Babbage. She \_\_\_\_\_ (help) him with his work and he had a big influence on her life.

Ada \_\_\_\_\_ (marry) Lord Lovelace in 1835 and they \_\_\_\_\_ (have) three children. After that, she \_\_\_\_\_ (work) with Babbage on his new calculating machine. In 1843, she \_\_\_\_\_ (write) an article about it with a plan for calculating numbers. This plan was the first computer program.

Ada \_\_\_\_\_ (have) an important influence on computer history because she \_\_\_\_\_ (predict) the modern computer. In 1852, when American scientists \_\_\_\_\_ (invent) a new computer language, they called it ADA. Ada \_\_\_\_\_ (die) on 27 November, 1852, at the age of 36.



## Elvis Presley

Elvis Presley \_\_\_\_\_ (be) one of the most popular singers of his time. He was called 'The King of Rock 'n' Roll' and almost thirty years after his death, people still listen to his music.

Elvis Aaron Presley \_\_\_\_\_ (be born) on 8th January, 1935, in Mississippi, USA. He \_\_\_\_\_ (win) a singing contest at the age of six and played his first guitar at the age of eleven. As a

young man, Elvis \_\_\_\_\_ (work) as a lorry driver before he became a singer.

He \_\_\_\_\_ (have) his first hit, 'Heartbreak Hotel', in 1956. In the same year, he \_\_\_\_\_ (make) his first film, 'Love me Tender'. In 1958, Elvis \_\_\_\_\_ (join) the army and went to Germany. There he \_\_\_\_\_ (meet) Priscilla Beaulieu. They \_\_\_\_\_ (marry) in 1967. Elvis \_\_\_\_\_ (become) one of the richest singers in history. During his lifetime he \_\_\_\_\_ (record) a large number of songs and many of them were big hits. He \_\_\_\_\_ (perform) his last concert on 26th June, 1977.

Sadly, Elvis \_\_\_\_\_ (die) a few months later on 16th August. He was only 42 years old. 'The King' is dead, but his legend lives on!



## LEONARDO DA VINCI

LEONARDO DA VINCI (1452-1519) \_\_\_\_\_ (be) an incredible man. He \_\_\_\_\_ (work) as an architect, artist, mathematician and scientist. He also \_\_\_\_\_ (work) as a military engineer and \_\_\_\_\_ (be) a good musician. When he was a child, Leonardo \_\_\_\_\_ (like) school but he \_\_\_\_\_ (hate) Latin. In 1466, Leonardo's family \_\_\_\_\_ (move) to Florence and he \_\_\_\_\_ (finish) school. In 1482, he \_\_\_\_\_ (move) to Milan and \_\_\_\_\_ (start) to work for the Duke of Milan. He \_\_\_\_\_ (design) many buildings for the Duke. He also \_\_\_\_\_ (study) mathematics. His drawing of the *Anatomy of a Man* \_\_\_\_\_ (show) him to be a great biologist. In 1502, he \_\_\_\_\_ (return) to Florence and \_\_\_\_\_ (paint) the *Mona Lisa*. From 1514 to 1516, he \_\_\_\_\_ (live) in Rome and \_\_\_\_\_ (continue) his scientific experiments. He \_\_\_\_\_ (die) in France in 1519.

The interesting facts about this person are:

- Leonardo da Vinci \_\_\_\_\_ (write) from right to left - you \_\_\_\_\_ (need) a mirror to read his handwriting.
- He was a genius - he \_\_\_\_\_ (can) write one sentence with his right hand and a different sentence with his left hand.
- He \_\_\_\_\_ (invent) scissors.
- He \_\_\_\_\_ (draw) architect's plans but never built a building.
- He \_\_\_\_\_ (make) models and in his notebooks there were plans for a tank, a helicopter and a submarine.