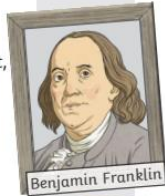


# Electrical Pioneers

6 The history of electricity stretches back  
12 to ancient times. However, humans did  
20 not begin to harness its power until over  
26 2000 years later. In the 1600s,  
30 an Englishman (William Gilbert)  
36 invented the term 'electricus', which has  
42 evolved into the familiar, modern word  
43 'electricity'.



49 While carrying out his famous — and  
53 incredibly dangerous — kite experiment,  
59 Benjamin Franklin aimed to show the  
63 connection between electricity and  
69 lightning. He did this successfully. In  
75 1753, he won a prestigious award  
80 for his 'curious experiments and  
83 observations on electricity'.



88 Improving on existing designs, Thomas  
94 Edison invented the modern lightbulb in  
99 1880. Lewis Latimer worked alongside  
104 Edison — inventing a carbon filament  
112 (the wire inside a bulb) that enabled the  
118 lightbulb to stay alight for longer.



## Questions



1. What is the name of the person who invented the term **electricus**?

\_\_\_\_\_



2. What do you think the word **prestigious** means?

\_\_\_\_\_



3. Look at the third paragraph. What does this section of the text focus on?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



4. Thomas Edison invented the first lightbulb. Is this statement true or false? Explain your answer using evidence from the text.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_