## XVI Certamen de Ensayo Científico

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> The evolution of light throughout history of mankind Raquel María Guzmán Villalobos, Liceo Experimental Bilingüe de Naranjo

Who would have thought that one of the major advances of humanity for the fields of industry, medicine, homes, trade, computation and investigation, was implemented by a man as you and me? This man's name was Thomas Alba Edison, whom as a child, his teachers qualified him as a child who neither learn nor understand. After a long time, he proposed to himself with much perseverance to execute an invention every 10 days. And, of many attempts, in 1879, he managed to create a lamp that shone for 48 constant hours. From Edison's great achievement, electric light has had a great advance and it has become more useful and necessary for the daily life.

Electric light has had great advance as years have passed. Before the technology existed, people did not have any type of electrical lighting. So, in the morning they took advantage of the solar light and in the night they used lamps based on petroleum, or candles done with lard of pork. It is necessary to understand that having electrical light is a great privilege that we enjoy nowadays.

The applications of the electric light are innumerable. And, it's an indispensable resource because it is used to carry out many activities such as: moving engines, obtaining heat, transporting data, lighting, cooking, agriculture, administration and public services. Some of the most ingenious applications of light are included in the field of medicine such as: surgical procedures, diagnose of diseases, scans, ultrasounds, X-rays. The electric light has many benefits, that's why we can call it a preeminent kind of energy.

It is necessary to mention that the energy is a limited resource. Therefore, we need to implement strategies to diminish his consumption. For example: to replace the unnecessary use of the air conditioner, we can plant trees to give shade in the summers. Also, we can use fluorescent lamps instead of incandescent bulbs since they consume four times less electric power. Likewise, due to the fact that the refrigerator is one of the domestic appliances that spends more energy, it's recommended to open the door as little as possible and when it is necessary. With these changes it is possible to save a great percentage of energy.

Definitely, the electric light is one of the biggest and most important inventions for the humanity. With this great invention we can do a lot of things



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that we never thought that we could do. Day by day, people meet greater challenges related to technology. And, with the great intelligence of the human being, and with the help of the technology, in the future; we will achieve to create more useful light-based innovations that are going to facilitate a great quantity daily tasks.

" I declare that this essay is my own original work. Where other people's work has been used (either from a printed source, Internet or any other source), this has been properly acknowledged and referenced in accordance with departmental requirements. "

