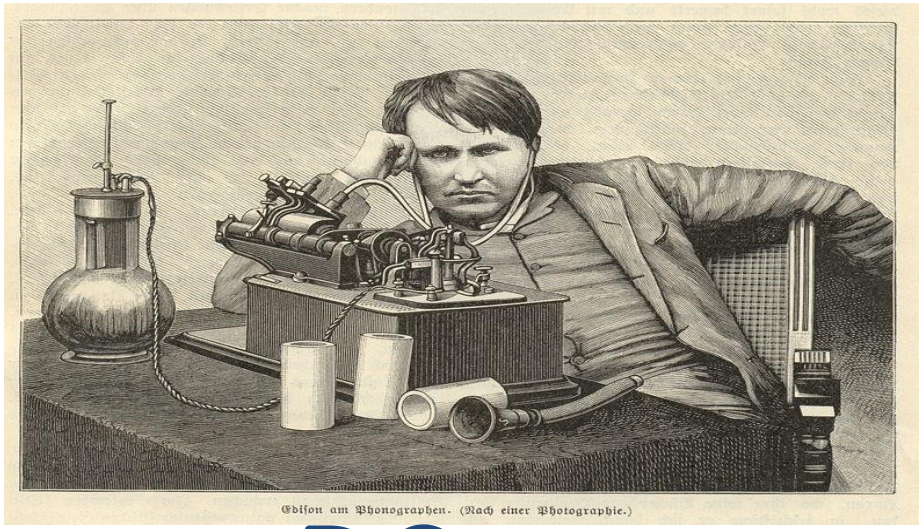
War of the Currents:

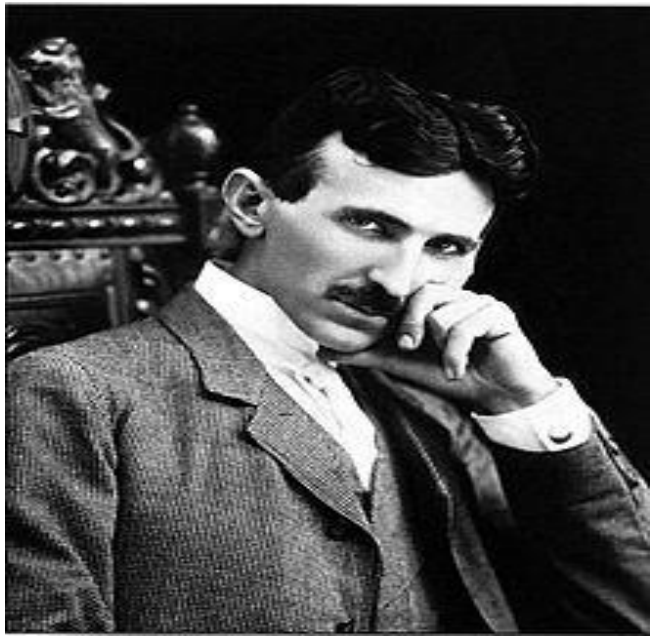


Edison am Phonographen. (Nach einer Photographie.)

DC

vs.

AC



Question 1: What Exactly Was the War of the Currents? When did it occur?

Dildar, Faith, Sarah, Elliott

It started in the late 1880s. Edison developed and wanted to use DC and Nikola Tesla promoted AC. Edison spread false information about AC saying that it was more dangerous. The war was about Edison and Tesla competing against each other to have their favored current the dominant one.

Question 2: Thomas Edison - Who was he and what side did he take?

Born on February 11, 1847, in Milan, Ohio, Thomas Edison rose from humble beginnings to work as an inventor of major technology. Setting up a lab in Menlo Park, some of the products he developed included the telegraph, phonograph, the first commercially practical incandescent electric light bulb, alkaline storage batteries and Kinetograph (a camera for motion pictures). He died on October 18, 1931, in West Orange, New Jersey.

Thomas Alva Edison developed direct current (DC). The direct current that T. A. Edison developed was initially standard in the United States. Edison continued to push DC current after the development of because he had royalties tied to direct current.

He developed many devices that greatly influenced life around the world, including the phonograph, the motion picture camera, and the long-lasting, practical electric light bulb. He was one of the first inventors to apply the principles of mass production and large-scale teamwork to the process of invention, and because of that he is often credited with the creation of the first industrial research laboratory.

Question 3: Nikola Tesla - Who was he and what side did he take?

Who was he? He was born in Croatia in 1856. He was inspired by his mother. He attended two universities but lost his first tuition due to gambling.

What side did he take? He came to America and got a job with Edison, but due to different personalities, Tesla quit. He then paired up with George Westinghouse to work on alternating current. He unofficially won the war of currents. Alternating current then became dominant in the electric power industry.

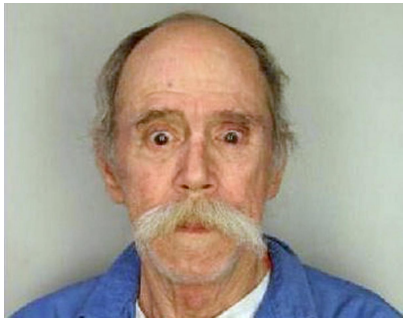
Question 4: What was the original wiring system for the US? What prompted the war between the two?

Brady, Nick, Zoe, Justin

Knot and tube wiring

Whether ac or dc current would become the standard

Commercial competition, a debate over electrical safety, and a media campaign. thought each other was wrong about each other's ideas



Question 5: Which system ultimately won the war? Why?

AC won the war between the currents because:

- ➔ Niagara Falls was found to be used to generate electricity by AC and could transmit long distances
- ➔ The electric chair was developed by Edison with AC and showed how powerful and dangerous it was by electrocuting animals to try to scare people away from AC
- ➔ DC was also unable to convert to high voltages while AC was more practical and costed less

Question 6: What are some pros and cons of DC and AC?

AC Pros- easier to transform volts, cheaper transformers, better short distances

AC Cons- can’t be used for fine circuitry or electronics

DC Pros- more efficient, cheaper wires and insulators, better long distance

DC Cons- voltage must be generated for the load required, loses power because of wire resistance