

Albert Einstein

WORKSHEET A

On 18th April 1955 Albert Einstein, possibly the most famous scientist of all time, died in New Jersey in the USA, aged 76. In 1999 he was described by *Time* magazine as the 'Person of the Century'.

It is said that Einstein's interest in science began at the age of five when he was given a compass as a present, and at school it was clear that his ability in mathematics was extraordinary.

The biggest of Einstein's many scientific achievements was probably his General Theory of Relativity, published in 1916. His ideas on space, time and matter were completely new, and helped develop a lot of the technology that forms part of our modern world, such as atomic energy and – unfortunately – nuclear weapons.

Einstein worked on his scientific theories in Germany, where he was born, and in Switzerland before moving to the USA in 1933. Although he was a pacifist, in 1939 he told President Roosevelt of the USA that the country needed to make an atomic bomb before Nazi Germany – which of course it did. Later in his life, when talking about the power of modern weapons, he said: "I don't know with what weapons World War III will be fought, but World War IV will be fought with sticks and stones."

He was also famous for being quite eccentric. For example, he hated wearing socks, enjoyed talking to his cat, and found it difficult to remember people's birthdays. Also, although he spoke English very well, he said he was never able to write in the language because the spelling of English words was too difficult.

After he died, scientists decided to study Einstein's brain. Perhaps unsurprisingly, they found that the part that was responsible for mathematical thought was 15% bigger than average.

Albert Einstein

WORKSHEET B

Fill in the eleven missing words and discover the word that completes another of Einstein's famous quotes: "_____ is more important than knowledge."

Write the first letter of each answer in the box with the corresponding number at the bottom of the page.

1. Einstein's D changed the way people thought about space, time and matter.
2. Einstein's best subject at school was T M _____.
3. Einstein did not want Germany to produce M C energy before America.
4. Einstein's nationality was N .
5. It is said that Einstein became T T in science when he was given a compass as a present.
6. Einstein said that he V R found it easy to spell words in English.
7. In the 1930s Einstein went to live in C .
8. Einstein was probably the greatest scientist of the W H Y .
9. The General Theory of Relativity was probably Einstein's most T T scientific achievement.
10. Einstein certainly could not be described as an D Y person.
11. Unfortunately, Einstein's work was later used to develop C R P S .

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11