

e-lesson

Week starting: 10th April 2006

1. Albert Einstein

In this lesson we're going to find out about a man who was probably the greatest scientist of the twentieth century: Albert Einstein. You probably already know that his theories helped develop a lot of the technology that forms part of our modern world, but did you know that his personal dislikes included socks and spelling?

Level

Pre-intermediate and above

How to use the lesson

1. Give your students 5-10 minutes to read through Worksheet A and remember as many of the details as they can. Tell them they are going to do a gap-fill exercise based on the text, but they shouldn't write anything down at this stage.
2. After 5-10 minutes stop your students. Ask them to turn over their worksheets.
3. Give each student a copy of Worksheet B. Tell them that by filling in the eleven gaps they can find the eleven-letter word that completes another one of Einstein's famous quotes: "Imagination is more important than knowledge." Point out that in each case the number of letters in the missing words has been indicated and that some of the letters have been given. Divide the class into pairs and ask students to work together to answer the questions and write the answers in the grid.
4. Check answers in open class. If the questions have all been answered as below, the word *imagination* should be seen in the box.

Answers

1. IDEAS
2. MATHEMATICS
3. ATOMIC
4. GERMAN
5. INTERESTED
6. NEVER
7. AMERICA
8. TWENTIETH CENTURY
9. IMPORTANT
10. ORDINARY
11. NUCLEAR WEAPONS

2. Related Websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/579009.stm>

Short, readable article from the BBC website about Einstein being named ‘Person of the Century’ by *Time* magazine in 1999. Contains basic details of his life and career.

http://www.scienceagogo.com/news/19980907140525data_trunc_sys.shtml

Einstein was a true eccentric as well as a scientific genius – here are just a few of his amusing quirks.

<http://www.humboldt1.com/%7Egralsto/einstein/quotes.html>

Classic Einstein quotes.

<http://www.westegg.com/einstein/>

‘Albert Einstein Online’: loads of links to Einstein-related websites.