



MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS:

Choose the correct answer:

1. When was Albert Einstein born?
A) on 14 March, 1879
B) on 10 March 1878
C) on 14 March 1877
D) on 14 March, 1875
2. Where was Albert Einstein born?
A) Bulgaria
B) German city of Ulm
C) Georgia
D) None
3. What did Einstein love to play with?
A) toys
B) mechanical toys
C) friends
D) none
4. What did Albert's classmates call him?
A) a genius
B) dull
C) Brother Boring
D) creative creature
5. Why did Einstein leave the school?
A) for good
B) he had clash with the teachers
C) he didn't like discipline and order in the school
D) All
6. Why did Albert Einstein decide to continue his study in Switzerland?
A) it was a good city
B) it was more liberal than Munich
C) he liked the place
D) all
7. In which subjects was Einstein gifted and interested?

- A) English and History
- B) Mathematics and Physics**
- C) Mathematics and Biology
- D) Physics and English

8. When was Einstein awarded with the Nobel prize?

- A) 1938
- B) 1956
- C) 1945
- D) 1921**

9. What does this lesson 'A Truly Beautiful mind' speak about?

- A) beauty of the mind
- B) beauty of the world
- C) the life of the genius Albert Einstein and his contributions to the field of science and world politics**
- D) none

10. What is the message of this lesson?

- A) a beautiful mind not only creates beautiful ideas but also to use them for the welfare of the humanity**
- B) always think big
- C) be like Einstein
- D) win a Nobel Prize

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

Q1. Who is a 'freak'? Why did Einstein's mother think him to be a 'freak'?

Ans: A 'freak' is a word used disapprovingly for a person who is unusual in looks and behaviour. Einstein's mother thought him to be a 'freak' because his head seemed too large to her. This made him look different from the other children of his age.

Q2. During his childhood, Einstein did not show any traces of becoming a genius one day. How?

Ans: As a child, Einstein had a large head and did not start to speak till he was two-and-a-half years old. Finally, when he did speak, he used to utter everything twice. He could not interact freely with his playmates either. All this showed the absence of any traces in him of becoming a genius one day.

Q3. Why did Einstein's playmates call him "Brother Boring"?

OR

Why did Einstein play all alone when he was a child?

Ans: Einstein did not know what to do with other children. His shy and introvert nature made his company boring to his playmates. So, they teased him as "Brother Boring" and did not include him in their games. Therefore, he played all alone when he was a child.

Q4. What kind of toys attracted the attention of Einstein when he was a child? Why?

Ans: Einstein could not enjoy the company of playmates because of his introvert nature. Instead as a child, he was attracted only by mechanical toys. It showed his scientific temperament since mechanical toys work on some kind of scientific principles.

Q5. Why did Einstein try to look for wheels on the body of his newly born sister?

Ans: Einstein was much too interested in mechanical toys and had scientific inclinations. When his sister was born, he thought her to be a new toy; that is why he tried to search for wheels on her body.

Q6. What was the opinion of the school headmaster about Einstein?

Ans: The school headmaster considered Einstein to be a good-for-nothing boy. He was of the opinion that Einstein would never succeed in any profession. Therefore, choice of profession would not make any difference in the results of his efforts.

Q7. Which musical instrument did Einstein begin to learn? Why?

Ans: Einstein began to learn to play upon the violin at the young age of six. He kept this interest alive throughout his life and became a gifted amateur violinist. He began learning the violin because his mother wanted him to.

Q8. How did Einstein perform in various subjects while studying in Munich?

Ans: Although as a young child Einstein was very slow, still while studying in Munich, he showed great progress in almost all the subjects and scored very good marks. He showed a special interest in Physics and Mathematics.

Q9. When and for what did Einstein gain international fame?

Ans: Einstein gained international fame when his paper on General Theory of Relativity was found to be accurate in 1919. As per this theory, the calculations made by Einstein in advance about the deflection of light in the solar gravitational field during the eclipse were proven true. This theory was treated as “a scientific revolution.”

Q10. How was Einstein honoured for his achievements?

Ans: Honours came pouring in for Einstein after his theories proved him to be a scientist with exceptional abilities. He was awarded the prestigious Nobel Prize for Physics in 1921. Honours and invitations were conferred on him from all over the world. The newspapers too applauded his genius.

LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS

Q1. Write a short note on Einstein’s education from school to university.

Ans: As a young boy, Einstein did not show any symptoms of an intellectual genius. His headmaster had a very poor opinion about him and he even declared that Einstein would fail in any career that he chose. However, as he grew up and joined a school in Munich, he showed appreciable progress in studies scoring good marks in almost all the subjects. But the strict discipline of the school was not in accordance with the free spirit of Einstein. As a result, he frequently had scuffles with his teachers. Being a person of liberal ideas, he felt so suffocated that he ultimately left that school for good. He chose to complete his studies in a school in Switzerland where the environment was more liberal as compared to Munich. Highly gifted in mathematics and having a great interest in Physics, Einstein joined the university in Zurich after completing school and from where he graduated in 1900.

Q2. What researches and theories proved that Einstein was a true genius? How was he rewarded for his scientific achievements?

Ans: Einstein proved to be an intellectual and scientific genius after the completion of his university education. Although he was jobless for some time and gave private tuitions, he finally got a job of a technical expert in a patent office in Bern. Here, along with the job, he kept developing secretly his own ideas and came out with the publication of his famous research paper on 'Special Theory of Relativity', according to which time and distance are not absolute. His theory about the relationship between mass and energy was developed into the world famous formula $E = mc^2$, and this equation made him a renowned scientist. Einstein earned international acclaim with the publication of his General Theory of Relativity which enabled him to calculate in advance the extent of the deflection of light from fixed stars as it passed through the gravitational field of the sun. The theory was declared as "a scientific revolution" by the newspapers. For his contribution to the development of science, Einstein was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1921. After this, a number of honours were bestowed upon him and he was invited by different countries in the world. Newspapers too hailed his scientific genius.

Q3. The author talks about two important letters that Einstein wrote -one to President Franklin D. Roosevelt and the other to the United Nations. What prompted Einstein to write these letters? What impact did they make?

Ans: At the insistence of a colleague, Einstein wrote a letter to the American President, Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1939 warning him that the atomic bomb, if made and used by Germany, could not only destroy the whole part on which it could be dropped but also the territory surrounding it. The impact of the letter was both deep and rapid as the Americans secretly developed their own atomic bombs which were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan in 1945. As expected, these bombs caused terrible destruction. The large-scale damage caused by these bombings on Japan perturbed Einstein so much that this time he wrote a letter to the United Nations. In this letter, he proposed that there should be only one government in the world. This would put an end to the enmity between nations and hence stop the massacres caused in the name of wars. But this letter did not have any impact. Thus, unlike the letter to Roosevelt, Einstein's letter to the United Nations failed to evoke any response.

Q4. Which values does the life of Einstein teach you?

Ans: Einstein was not only a great scientist but a man with love for peace. His life history contains in itself the moral lesson that one must love one's fellow beings and all the discoveries of science should be oriented towards the aim of establishing peace. Einstein had written a letter to the American President Roosevelt to warn him against the destructive atom bomb that Germany would build on the principle of nuclear fission. But Einstein was terribly shocked when America caused large scale destruction in Japan by dropping an atom bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Einstein made sincere efforts to spread the message of peace. He even wrote a letter to the United Nations proposing that a world government should be established. He did not use his popularity for selfish or personal gains. Instead, he worked for furthering the cause of democracy and peace. He was never carried away by his achievements; on the contrary, the honours bestowed on him encouraged him to work more for the welfare of humanity. The life of Einstein thus inspires in us the values of sincere work, devotion to humanity, selfless service of mankind, and love of peace.

READ THE EXTRACTS AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW:

1. **But Albert Einstein was not a bad pupil. He went to high school in Munich where Einstein's family had moved when he was 15 months old, and scored good marks in almost every subject. Einstein hated the school's regimentation, and often clashed with his teachers. At the age of 15, Einstein felt so stifled there that he left the school for good.**

- a) Why Einstein was not a bad pupil?
- b) Why did he hate the school?
- c) Find out the word from the passage which means 'suppressed'.
- d) Why did Einstein leave the school?

Ans. a) Einstein was not a bad pupil because he scored good marks in almost every subject.

- b) He hated the school because of its regimentation.
- c) The word is 'stifled'.
- d) Einstein was so stifled with the school that he decided to leave it forever.

2. **Einstein was highly gifted in mathematics and interested in physics, and after finishing School, he decided to study at a University in Zurich. But science wasn't the only thing that appealed to the dashing young man with the walrus moustache. He also felt a special interest in a fellow student. Mileva Maric, whom he found to be a 'clever creature'.**

- a) In which subjects was Einstein gifted and interested?
- b) *What did Einstein decide to do after finishing School?*
- c) *What appealed to Einstein other than science?*
- d) *Who has been referred as a 'clever creature'?*

Ans. a) Einstein was highly gifted in mathematics and interested in physics.

- b) Einstein decided to study at a University in Zurich after finishing School.
- c) Other than science, he was interested in a fellow student, Mileva Maric
- d) Mileva Maric has been referred to as a 'clever creature.'

3. **A headmaster once told his father that what Einstein chose as a profession wouldn't matter, because 'he'll never make a success at anything.' Einstein began learning to play the violin at the age of six, because his mother wanted him to; he later became a gifted amateur violinist, maintaining this skill throughout his life.**

- a) *What was the headmaster's opinion about Einstein?*
- b) *When did Einstein began learning to play the violin?*
- c) *Why did Einstein learn to play violin?*
- d) *How long did he maintain his skill as a violinist?*

Ans. a) The headmaster's opinion about Einstein was that he would never be successful in his life.

- b) Einstein began learning to play the violin at the age of six.
- c) Einstein learnt to play the violin to fulfil the desire of his mother.
- d) He maintained his skills throughout his life.

4. The pair finally married in January 1903, and had two sons. But a few years later, the marriage faltered. Mileva, meanwhile, was losing her intellectual ambition and becoming an unhappy housewife.

- a) *Name the pair referred to in the above lines.*
- b) *When did Albert and Mileva marry?*
- c) *What happened to their marriage?*
- d) *Which word from the extract means 'become weak'?*

Ans. a) The pair referred to in the above lines is of Albert Einstein and Mileva Maric.

- b) Albert Einstein and Mileva Maric married in 1903.
- c) The marriage was not successful
- d) Faltered

5. Einstein was deeply shaken by the extent of the destruction. This time he wrote a public missive to the United Nations. In it he proposed the formation of a world government. Unlike the letter to Roosevelt, this one made no impact. But over the next decade, Einstein got ever more involved in politics – agitating for an end to the arms build-up and using his popularity to campaign for peace and democracy.

- a) *What did Einstein write and to whom?*
- b) *What did he propose?*
- c) *Find the word from the extract that means- 'a long and official letter'.*
- d) *Why did Einstein get involved in politics?*

Ans. a) Einstein wrote a public missive to the United Nations proposing the formation of a World Government.

- b) He proposed the formation of a World Government.
- c) Missive
- d) Einstein got involved in politics to use his popularity to campaign for peace and democracy.