



The Nobel Prizes

1. What made Alfred Nobel rich?

2. What did sloppy journalism have to do with him establishing the Nobel Prizes?

3. What do you remember about the first woman to win a Nobel Prize? Include as much detail as you can, particularly why her husband is important to the story.

4. What do you think life was like for women scientists in the early 1900s? Do you think it has changed much? Explain your thinking.

5. In the 120-year history of the Nobel Prizes, only two winners have declined the prize. Check all of the statements that are true.

- Martin Luther King Jr. declined, because Black people in America still didn't have equal rights when he was awarded the peace prize.
- A French writer said no, because he said no to every honour and prize he was offered.
- Two WA doctors declined, because they were too unwell from ulcers.
- A Vietnamese diplomat declined, because he said the situation in Vietnam was not peaceful when he won the peace prize.

6. How do you think Alfred Nobel would have felt about the Ig Nobel prizes? Explain.

7. The world has changed a lot since the Nobel Prizes were established in literature, peace, economics, physics, chemistry, and medicine. Should there be new categories that reflect the world we live in now? Think of at least one, and propose who you think should win it. Explain your thinking.
