

9th Standard English

A Truly Beautiful Mind Summary

Albert Einstein is born

Albert Einstein was born on March 14, 1879 in the German City of Ulm. He had no signs of greatness. His mother thought that he was a freak.

Albert as uncommon

When he learned to speak he spoke everything twice. He was boring for other children. So he played by himself much of the time. He loved mechanical toys. Looking at his new born sister, Maja, he asked where her wheels were.

Albert belies the headmaster

A headmaster told his father that Einstein would never make a success at anything. Einstein began playing at the age of six. Later he became a gifted violinist.

Leaves school for good

But Einstein was not a bad pupil. He joined a high school in Munich. He scored good marks in every subject. He clashed with his teachers. He did not like strict discipline and order in schools. He left school for good at the age of 15.

Education in Switzerland

A year before his parents had moved to Milan. They left him with relatives. He was able to continue his education in Switzerland.

Goes to University

Einstein was highly gifted in mathematics. He was interested in physics also. He decided to study at a University in Zurich.

Falls in love

He had a special interest in a fellow student. Her name was Mileva Marie. She was a 'clever creature'. She was a Serb. The university in Zurich was one of the few universities in Europe where women could get degrees. Therefore, she had come to Switzerland. The couple fell in love. However, their love was expressed in science.

Gets a job

At the age of 21, Albert Einstein got his university degree. He also got a job. He became a technical expert in the patent office in Bern in 1920. He was also actually developing his own ideas in secret. He called his desk as the 'bureau of theoretical physics'.

His 'Special Theory of Relativity'

One of the famous papers of 1905 was Einstein's 'Special Theory of Relativity'. According to it time and distance are not absolute. For example, two perfectly accurate clocks will not show the same time if they come together after a journey. From this followed the world's most famous formula. It describes the

relationship between mass and energy, $E = mc^2$ (E stands for energy, m for mass and c for the speed of light in a vacuum which is about 300,000 km/s.)

Einstein's mother on Mileva

Einstein was solving the most difficult problems in physics. His private life was starting to fail. He wanted to marry Mileva. But his mother was against it.. She thought Mileva was too old for him. She was three years older than him. She was also bothered by Mileva's intelligence.

Einstein marries

The pair finally married in January 1903. They had two sons. But a few years later, the marriage failed. The couple finally divorced in 1919. Einstein married his cousin Elsa the same year.

Receives the Nobel Prize

Einstein's new chapter brought him world fame. In 1915 he had published his 'General Theory of Relativity'. An eclipse of the sun in 1919 proved its accuracy. The newspapers called his work as a scientific revolution. He received the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1921. He received honours and invitations from all over the world after that.

Einstein emigrates to US

The Nazis came to power in Germany in 1933. Einstein emigrated to the United States. Five years later, nuclear fission was discovered by the Nazis in Berlin. It upset the American physicists. They were afraid that the Nazis would build and use an atomic bomb.

Einstein's letter to US President

Einstein wrote a letter to the American President Franklin D. Roosevelt on August 2, 1939. In it he warned that a single bomb of this type might destroy the whole part. It bore fruit. The Americans developed the atomic bomb in secret. They dropped it on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945.

Einstein work for peace and democracy

Einstein was deeply shaken by the extent of destruction. This time he wrote a public letter to the United Nations. In it he proposed the formation of a world government. But this did not prove effective. Einstein in the next decade involved himself in politics. He wanted to bring an end to the arms buildup. He worked for peace and democracy.

Einstein dies

Einstein died in 1955 at the age of 76. He was celebrated as a visionary and a world citizen.