Nobel Prize Lessons

Student worksheet – Alfred Nobel and the Nobel Prize

Hi! Below you will find five questions about the video you just saw about Gertrude Elion, 1988 Nobel Laureate in Physiology and Medicine, plus two questions about Alfred Nobel and the Nobel Prize.

Before you watch the video

1. Look through the words in the box. Underline the words that are new to you.
   - cancer  a group of diseases that involve abnormal cell division
   - leukaemia  a group of cancers that cause changes in the blood
   - white blood cells  blood cells that defends our bodies against infections
   - purines  substances building up our DNA and affect cell division
   - chemotherapy  a medical treatment for cancer

After you have watched the video

2. Why did Gertrude Elion decide to develop medicines to fight cancer?

3. During the presentation, and in the video, you learned a little more about research on various forms of cancer. What causes cancer? How would you explain this to a friend?

4. In what way has Gertrude Elion's research benefited humankind?

Alfred Nobel and the Nobel Prize

5. The first video explains that Alfred Nobel left almost his entire fortune to create a Nobel Prize, since he had no family of his own to give the money to. Do you think there were more reasons why he did this?

6. You have heard about some Nobel Prize-rewarded contributions that have benefited mankind. Is there anything that you think should be rewarded with a Nobel Prize?