Amazing Achievements: Stephen Hawking

Stephen Hawking was one of the most famous scientists of this century. As a cosmologist and a theoretical physicist, he used mathematics to study space and the universe. He wrote several popular science books. He wrote *A Brief History of Time* in 1988, and more than 10 million people have bought this book. In his lifetime, many other scientists said Hawking was the greatest scientist in the world.

Hawking faced difficult problems in his life. When he was 21, he got a serious disease called ALS. The disease quickly got worse, and soon he couldn't walk or speak. He could only move his left hand. He used a wheelchair with a motor to get around. He "talked" by typing words into a computer. Then, the computer pronounced the words for him.

But, for Hawking, his work was more important than his problems. He was interested in the beginning of the universe. He taught at Cambridge University in England and gave lectures at other universities. He wrote many important scientific papers and won many prizes for his work. He appeared in several movies and was on TV many times. He traveled in countries around the world, and in 2007, he went up on a special zero gravity plane.

Hawking's achievements are truly amazing. Even though his body was in a wheelchair, his mind explored the universe. Hawking died in March, 2018. He was 76.

A Complete the sentences.

_____ **1.** Hawking was a	**a.**	when he got a serious disease.
_____ **2.** He studied	**b.**	using a computer.
_____ **3.** *A Brief History of Time*	**c.**	the universe.
_____ **4.** Hawking was a young man	**d.**	Cambridge University.
_____ **5.** He was able to "speak"	**e.**	scientist.
_____ **6.** He taught at	**f.**	is a popular book by Hawking.

B Read the sentences. Then circle **T** for *true* or **F** for *false*.

1. Hawking used mathematics to study space.	T	F
2. He wrote a book called *The History of Everything* in 1988.	T	F
3. Other scientists thought his achievements were great.	T	F
4. Hawking was in a wheelchair as a result of an accident.	T	F
5. He was unable to speak without using a computer.	T	F
6. He wasn't in a movie.	T	F

D Match each word from the article to the meaning.

_____ **1.** century	**a.**	investigate
_____ **2.** several	**b.**	relating to science
_____ **3.** scientific	**c.**	100 years
_____ **4.** explore	**d.**	a few

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