

Listening Ex. > The Ig Nobel Prize

A. Match each word with its corresponding synonyms. These words may help you understand the recording.



Words	Synonyms
achievement	(1) astonish, surprise, blow someone's mind
amaze	(2) speech, talk, lesson
dubious	(3) dishonorable, unworthy, shameful
disbelief	(4) winning, accomplishment, triumph
ignoble	(5) incredulity, distrust, doubt
spur	(6) chickens, turkeys, ducks and geese
lecture	(7) doubtful, uncertain, suspicious
satirical	(8) mocking, ironic, sarcastic
poultry	(9) stimulate, encourage, motivate

MP3 file

B. Listen to a recording about a satirical science award. Complete each gap using ONE WORD or A NUMBER ONLY.

- a. This year marks the (1) _____th annual (2) _____ of the Ig Nobel Prize.
- b. This event will be held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in (3) _____.
- c. The Ig Nobel Prize was first awarded in (4) _____.
- d. Such a distinction is sponsored by the scientific humor magazine 'Annals of (5) _____ Research' (AIR).
- e. The event aims to celebrate the (6) _____ achievements in science, medicine and tech.
- f. Winners receive (7) _____ for ten trillion Zimbabwean dollars.
- g. When the recipients of the prize make long speeches, they will be interrupted by a girl shouting 'Please, stop. I'm (8) _____.'
- h. For (9) _____ a frog by magnetism, Sir Andre Geim won an Ig Nobel Prize in 2000.
- i. The Ig Nobel Prize is not only to real-life scientists but also to (10) _____ ones.

C. Listen to the recording again. Answer each question using NO MORE THAN THREE (3) WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER.

1. How many awards are given in the ceremony? _____
2. How much is the prize in US currency? _____
3. What are winners expected to give? _____
4. When did Sir Andre Geim win the Nobel Prize? _____
5. What was Jillian Clarke's occupation when he got the prize? _____



Audio taken from Linehan, T. (2025, September 01). Bizarre Science: Ig Nobel Prize. Speak Up.
https://www.speakup.es/magazines/culture/bizarre-science-ig-nobel-prize_2465

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