1 *Listen and read the text. Put the number of each paragraph next to the appropriate headline below.*

- ☐ His Childhood
- ☐ The Atomic Bomb
- ☐ An 'Einstein'
- ☐ Life in Germany
- ☐ A Young Scientist
- ☐ Einstein as a Person
- ☐ The End of His Life

A GENTLE GENIUS

1. If someone calls you an 'Einstein' ['aɪnstaɪn], consider it a compliment. It means that you are compared to one of the greatest minds of the twentieth century. Actually, many people believe that he was one of the most intelligent people ever born. He had the IQ (intelligence quotient) of a genius.

2. Albert Einstein was not only a genius but also a gentle man. He loved music, children and sailing. He wore his shoes without socks and he rarely had a haircut. He is called a genius because many of his scientific discoveries were far ahead of their time. He is remembered as a gentle person because he believed that all nations should live without war. He often spoke for peace.

3. Albert was born in Ulm, Germany. He was an unusual child. He seemed to be very slow and dreamy and his parents were worried about him. He started to talk later than most children did. As a schoolboy, he thought a long time before answering questions. But he was far from being stupid. He learned mathematics and loved to use it in thinking about science.

VOCABULARY BOX

a genius ['dʒi:niəs]
a quotient ['kwəʊʃənt]
publicity [pʌ'blɪsɪti]
relativity [ˌrelə'tɪvɪti]

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4. He studied physics in Switzerland where he got his first job. In his spare time, he wrote out some of his original ideas on physics. In 1905 he published an article on his special theory of relativity. It caused a sensation among scientists. In the article he said that the basic qualities of objects (mass, length and time) changed when they moved at high speeds, closer to the speed of light.

5. In 1914 Einstein moved to Germany. He got a teaching job at the Royal Prussian Academy of Sciences. Four months later, Germany went to war. World War I started. Einstein made himself very unpopular because he was against the war.

In 1921 he got the Nobel Prize in physics. He became very famous, almost like a movie star. His picture was in many newspapers but he was a shy man and didn't like the publicity much. However, when Hitler came to power in Germany, Einstein decided to speak for peace. He said it was wrong for one person to kill another and that all men should refuse to be soldiers. Hitler didn't like any of his beliefs. There was another problem. Einstein was Jewish and Hitler hated Jews.

Einstein's life was in danger and that was why he and his wife moved to the United States.

6. During World War II Einstein was worried that German scientists, controlled by Hitler, would create the atomic bomb which would help Germany win the war. Even though Einstein never took any part in the creation of the bomb, it was partly his ideas that helped scientists make it. He knew very well how dangerous such a bomb would be.

Close to the end of World War II American scientists developed the bomb first. When Einstein found out about it he wrote to the American President asking him not to use the bomb because it was very, very dangerous. It made him very sad when the bomb was actually dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, in 1945. He wrote once: "Science is a powerful instrument. How it is used depends on man himself, not on the instrument. A knife is useful for the lives of human beings, but it can also be used to kill."

7. After World War II Einstein continued to work both for science and for peace. In 1955, he died in his sleep at the age of seventy-six.

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