

Fun Bits 3

Great People of the Modern Day

There are many great people from different sectors of our modern-day society. Let's learn some of them.



Charles Kao

Charles Kao is an engineer and a physicist. He is known as the 'Godfather of Broadband'. In 2009, he won the Nobel Prize in Physics for his research on the transmission of light in fibres for optical communication. His discovery led to a breakthrough in the development of the Internet. Thanks to him, we can now enjoy high-speed Internet connection with the use of optical fibres.

Manjul Bhargava

Manjul Bhargava, a professor of Mathematics at Princeton University, is famous for his contributions to number theory. In 2014, he won the Fields Medal. Only mathematicians under the age of 40 with remarkable achievements can receive this award. This is a very top honour that people called it 'the mathematician's Nobel Prize'.



A Write 'T' (True) or 'F' (False) in each box.

1. Charles Kao's research on fibre optics has made people's lives easier.
2. The Fields Medal is awarded to outstanding engineers.
3. Manjul Bhargava is an expert in number theory.
4. Elon Musk founded Tesla cars.
5. SolarCity sends spaceships to the moon.

Elon Musk



Elon Musk is an engineer as well as the founder of many companies, including SpaceX, Tesla and SolarCity. SpaceX designs, builds and launches rockets to space stations. Tesla invents cars which are fully powered by renewable energy. SolarCity provides solar energy services. His contributions to space exploration, automotive industry and development of reusable energy are truly impressive.

B Read the hints and circle the words from the text in the word search.

s	e	r	v	i	c	e	s
f	q	j	h	t	t	a	b
o	f	q	m	l	r	r	r
u	n	g	i	f	e	s	e
n	i	p	x	r	v	k	a
d	n	h	a	s	a	b	k
e	d	y	f	o	r	g	t
r	g	s	g	l	k	s	h
q	t	i	d	a	a	p	r
o	r	c	w	r	b	t	o
k	g	i	u	j	l	i	u
b	x	s	a	r	y	n	g
u	d	t	p	s	q	t	h

Hints:

1. When I grow up, I want to be a _____ because I am interested in Physics.
2. It was a major _____ in space exploration when the Soviet Union launched the world's first satellite to space.
3. My uncle is the _____ of ChitChat — a mobile application that allows people to communicate instantly.
4. There are _____ panels on top of that building. They are used for absorbing sunlight as a source of energy.
5. What kinds of _____ does the supermarket provide? I hope they have same day delivery.

STEAM Highlights

In which year did Charles Kao receive the Nobel Prize? (Find the answer from the text and check it on P.72.)