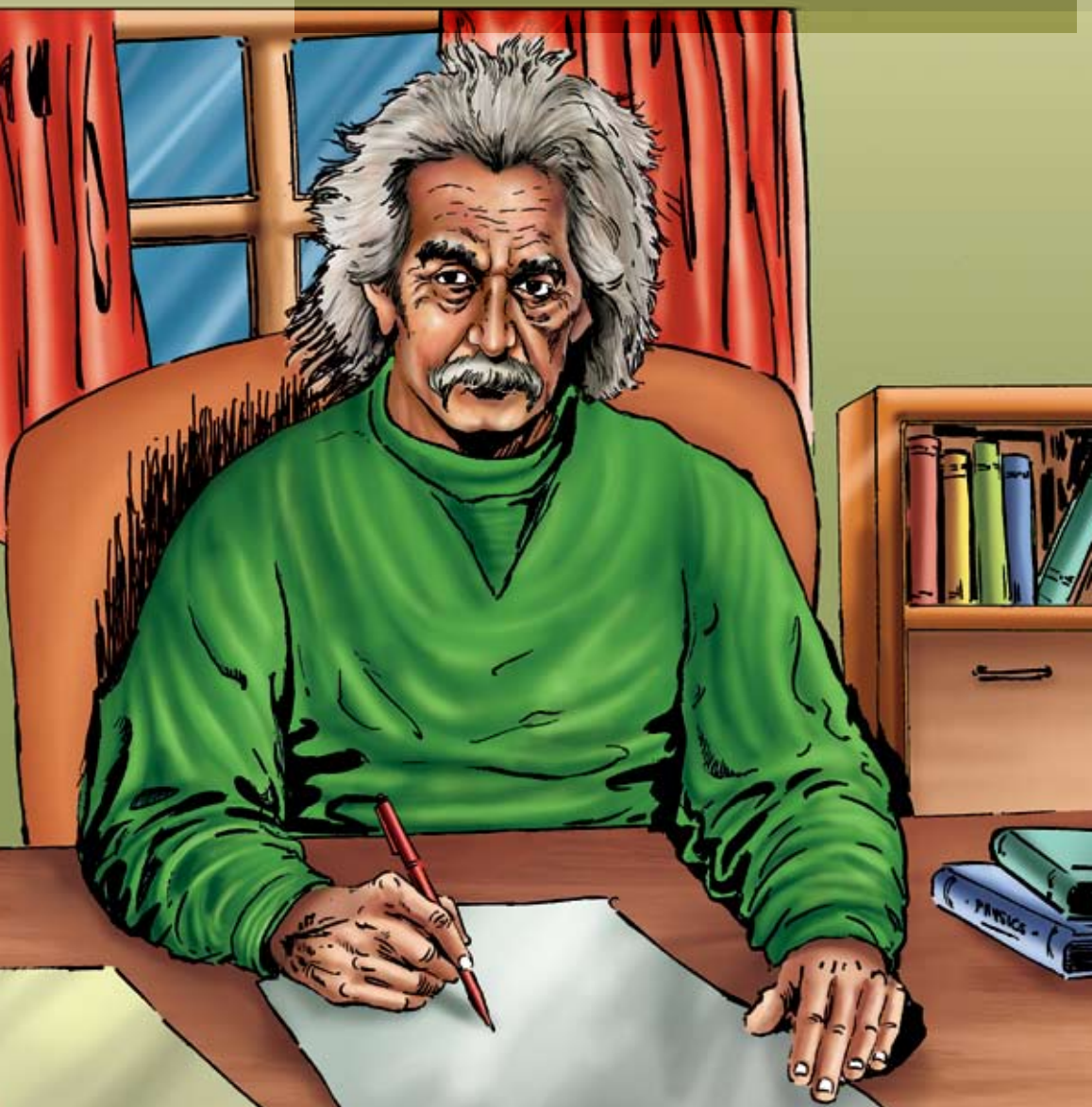
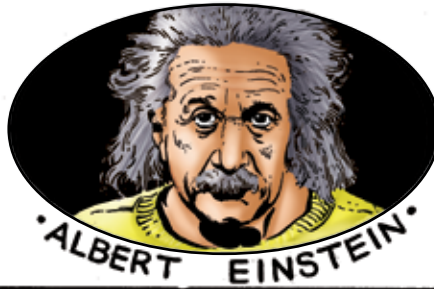


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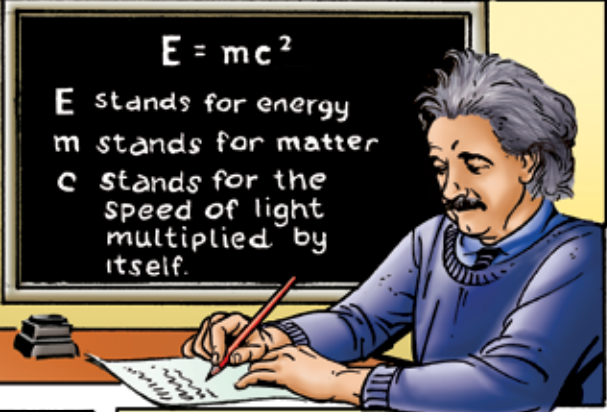
# Albert Einstein





Albert Einstein was born in Germany in 1879. He became famous as a scientist and as one of the most important thinkers of our times. In 1933 when the dictator Adolph Hitler came to power in Germany, Einstein left his native land for good. Einstein was a Jew. Hitler hated Jews. In 1940 Albert Einstein became a citizen of the United States.

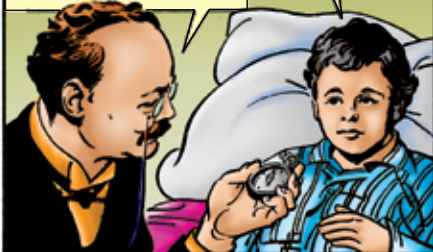
Although he made many important discoveries, he is best known for his theory of relativity. This law became the most famous equation in science. It read  $E=mc^2$ . "E" stands for energy, "m" stands for matter, and "c" stands for the speed of light multiplied by itself.



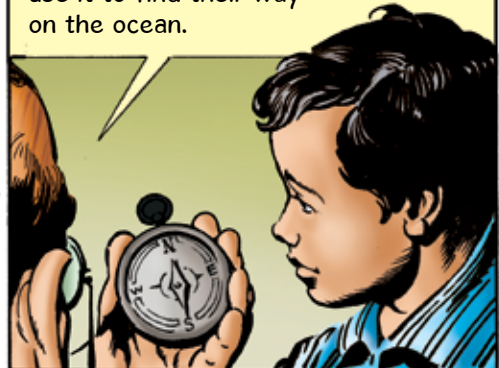
One day when five-year-old Albert was ill, his father bought him a gift.

My son, I have bought you a compass.

What's it for?



No matter how you hold it, the iron needle always points north. Sailors use it to find their way on the ocean.



Albert especially liked to listen to his mother and friends perform Mozart's violin sonatas.



One day ...

This is for you!  
You must have  
music lessons.



He went to  
the teacher.

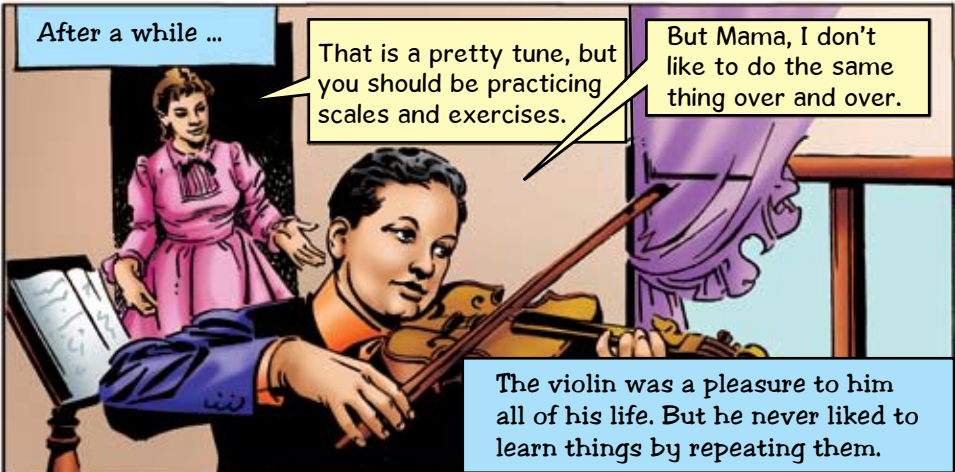
Practice,  
practice,  
practice!  
Always scales  
and exercises!



After a while ...

That is a pretty tune, but  
you should be practicing  
scales and exercises.

But Mama, I don't  
like to do the same  
thing over and over.

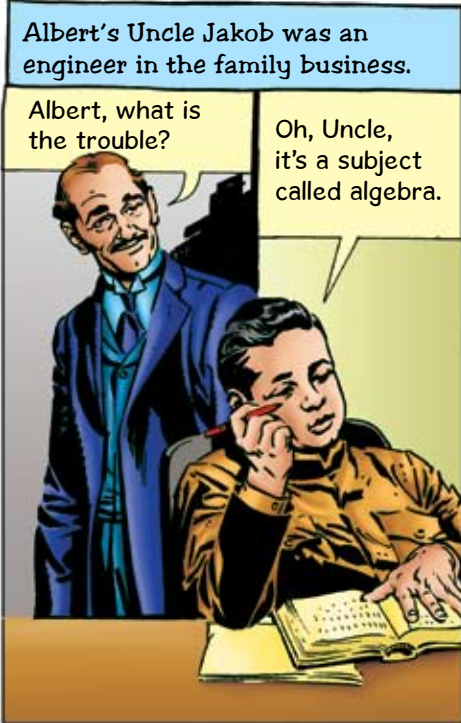


The violin was a pleasure to him  
all of his life. But he never liked to  
learn things by repeating them.

Albert's Uncle Jakob was an engineer in the family business.

Albert, what is the trouble?

Oh, Uncle, it's a subject called algebra.



But algebra is great fun!

It is?



We are hunting for a little animal. We don't know its name, so we call it "x."



We hunt for it. We catch it! We give it its right name.



And that is the answer! You see?

Yes! I see!





At home ...

Please, couldn't we move to another country? If I stay here, I'll have to be a soldier, and I would die!



Why, son, you are too young for the army!

There is no need to worry about that now!



But his father's business was in trouble.

Yes, the business is failing. But our relatives in Italy offered me a job there.

Then we will move to Italy!



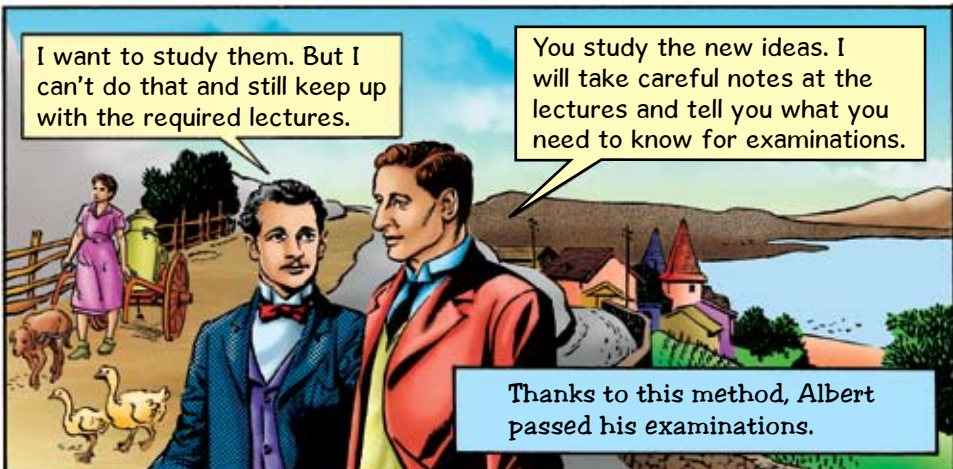
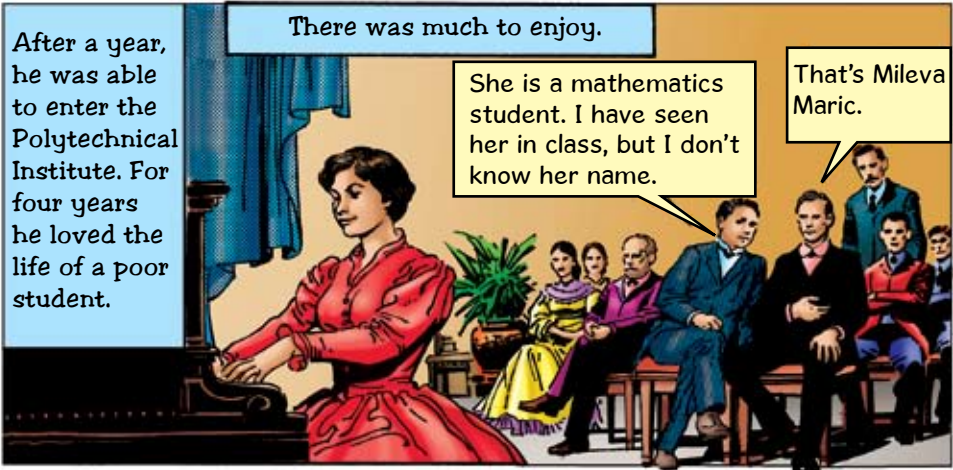
That's just what I want, to move to another country.

No, son. You must finish your schooling!



You must stay here, graduate, and get your diploma so that you can go to a university!





In August 1900 he and his friends celebrated their graduation.

What will you do now, Albert?

I want to be a teacher.

But Albert had not wanted to go to the professors' lectures. Now they did not want to hire him as a teacher.

I need a job. But in the meantime, I will become a Swiss citizen. No matter how little money I've had, I've saved a bit every month to pay for that!

The Swiss are so kind and so free! All sorts of people live together peacefully here! I never felt like a German.

In 1901 he was granted Swiss citizenship. He valued it always.

In 1902 thanks to his friend Marcel, he was appointed to a job in the Swiss Patent Office in Berne.

Your job is to study the model, see if it holds a new idea. Then write up papers that will protect the inventor.

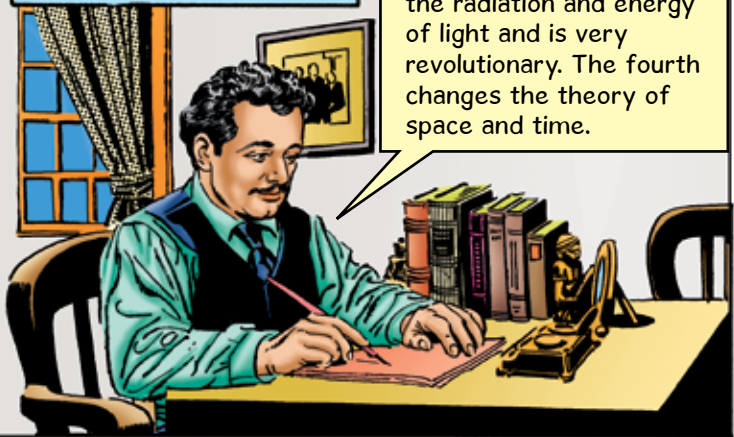
Yes, I see.



In 1905 four papers he had written were published in a scientific magazine. All were important. Sixteen years later, one would help to bring him a Nobel Prize.

He wrote to a friend ...

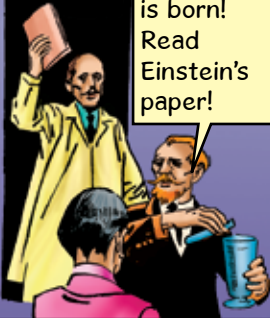
The first paper is on the radiation and energy of light and is very revolutionary. The fourth changes the theory of space and time.



Most people never heard of these papers. But scientists in the world's universities were excited.

In Poland

A new Copernicus is born! Read Einstein's paper!



In Germany

An important article by Herr Einstein, we must study it!



Some felt differently ...

This Einstein is a madman.



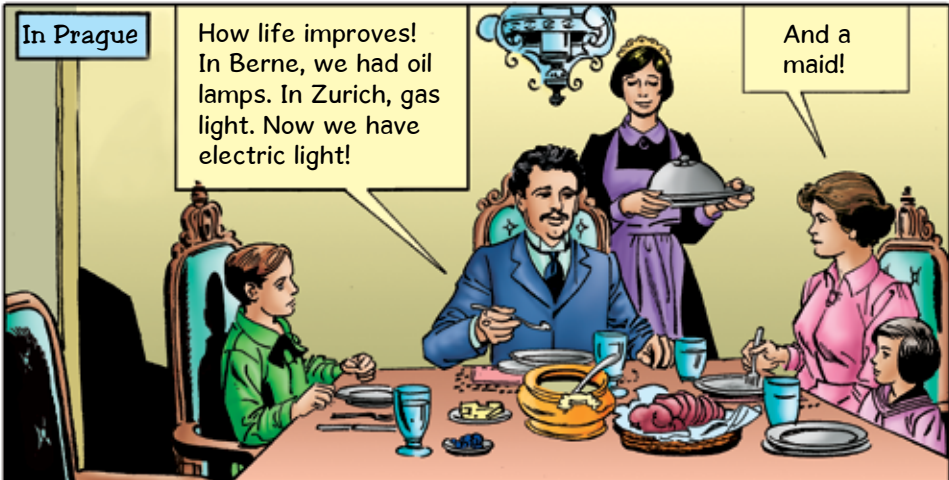
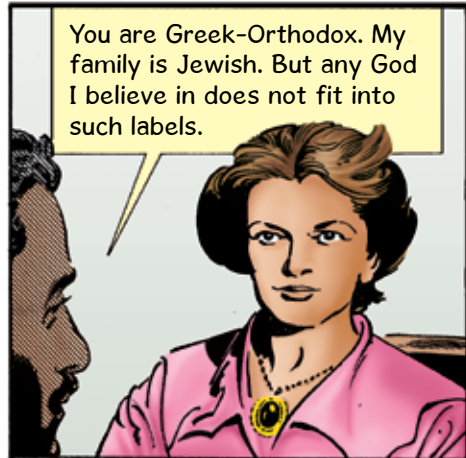
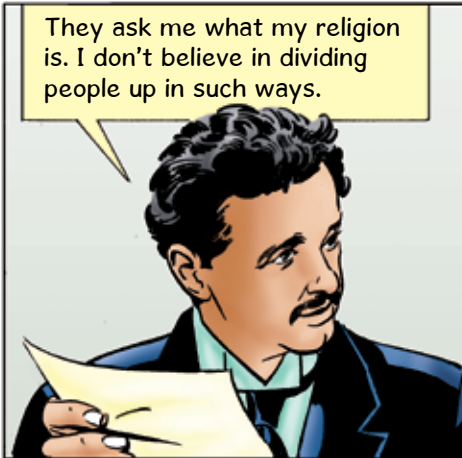
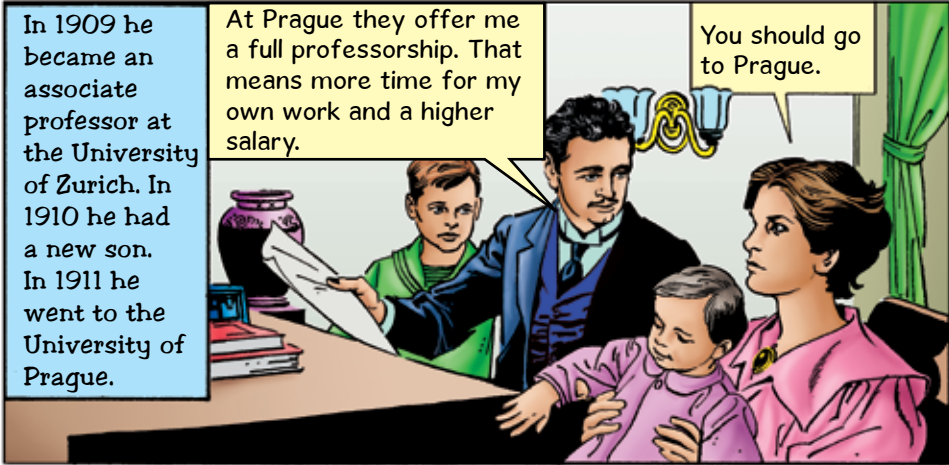
The Zurich professors were embarrassed.

This Swiss Einstein and his great theories. He is one of your professors, of course?

Well, no. But perhaps he will soon teach here!



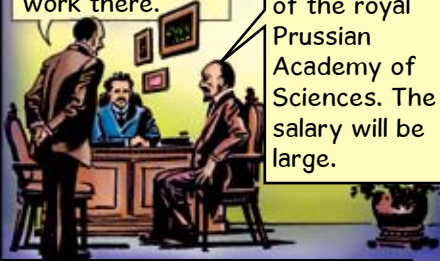
Before, they would not hire him. Now he had a choice of jobs.



One day he had visitors.

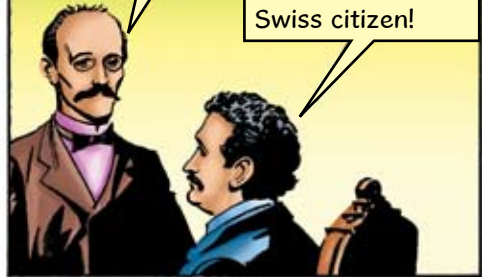
The best scientists in the world work in Germany. We want you to work there.

You will be head of a new Institute of Physics, a member of the royal Prussian Academy of Sciences. The salary will be large.



You may teach if you wish, or spend all your time on your own research.

It is a fine offer. But I am no longer a German, and I don't want to be one! I will come if I can remain a Swiss citizen!



The Germans agreed. The Einsteins moved to Berlin in April 1914. But soon they agreed to separate, and Mileva went back to Zurich with the boys.

Yes, it is best for us to divorce, but we will stay friends.

And if I ever win the Nobel Prize, I will give the prize money to you!



Albert found Berlin full of German soldiers.

What can such armies lead to but war and suffering?

