



Questions asked by high school students to Prof. Roy Glauber, the Nobel laureate 2005

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Could you share with us, how do you come up with an idea for which one gets the Nobel Prize?

– Think hard about a lot of things you don't understand.

How long have you been working on the problem for which you were awarded the Nobel Prize?

– The essential work was done over a couple of years, but its consequences have kept me busy for the last 35 years.

What do you like the most in the profession of a physicist?

– Developing new understandings.

Do you prefer to work alone or in a group?

– Theorists mostly work alone, but they have to remain in close contact with others.

Did you enjoy school?

– The more creative parts, yet. But school had its dull times too.

Did you like physics and mathematics at school?

– Yes, they gave me a constructive feeling – and new insights.

Did you do many extra things outside the requirements of the school curricula?

– Yes, all sorts of reading and experimentation.

Do you remember a book or an article that had an impact on your interest in physics?

– *Popular books by Sir James Jeans and Arthur Eddington in the 1930's.*

When you were young, did you like to talk with your parents or anyone in your family about physics?

– *No.*

What were your hobbies and your favorite subjects at school?

– *Hobbies: building model lanes, trains, then building telescopes and optical instruments.*

What is your hobby at the present time?

– *Work and reading.*

Did your children enjoy physics as well?

– *Not very much.*

Do they work in physics?

– *No.*

This is a very personal question: How did you meet your wife?

– *I'm no longer married. I met my ex-wife, as the sister of a poet I knew.*

Do you ever talk with your wife or children about your work and progress in research?

– *Yes, I did all the time, when I had them at home.*

Do you enjoy reading literature?

– *Yes.*

What is your favorite music?

– *J.S. Bach, L. Beethoven.*

What kind of sport did you exercise?

– *Skating and skiing.*



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A YOUNG PHYSICIST STUDIES LIGHT

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