

# Alfred Nobel and the Nobel Prize



Alfred Nobel was born on October 21, 1833, in Stockholm. He became the inventor of dynamite among other things. In the years 1842 - 1859, the family lived in St. Petersburg, but Alfred and his father returned to Sweden where Alfred began to study explosives. In an experiment in 1864, a brother of Alfred died.

He was granted more than 350 patents and set up factories in most European countries and in North America.

On December 10, 1896, Alfred died in the city of San Remo in Italy. The Nobel Prize is therefore awarded on December 10 every year and the flowers that adorn the award ceremony and banquet hall come from San Remo. 10 December is called the Nobel Day in Sweden.

The first time the Nobel Prize was awarded was in 1901 and the money was bequeathed by Alfred Nobel.

There are five prize categories: literature, physics, chemistry, medicine and the peace prize. Everyone except the Peace Prize is awarded in Stockholm. The Peace Prize is awarded in Oslo, Norway. This is because Sweden and Norway were in union when Alfred Nobel died.

At the same time as the five prizes are awarded, an economics prize is also awarded. It was not included in the Alfred Nobel's will, but was instituted by The Bank of Sweden and the first time it was awarded was in 1969.

The prize, which consists of money, a diploma and a gold medal, is awarded by the King of Sweden in Stockholm's Concert Hall and then there is a banquet in the Blue Hall in Stockholm City Hall. In addition to the prize winners with family members, those involved in the various prizes, politicians and students from various Swedish universities also participate.

[https://sv.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfred\\_Nobel](https://sv.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfred_Nobel) 2021-11-29

<https://sv.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nobelpriset> 2021-11-29



## Key

### Questions

1. When and where was Alfred Nobel born? **October 21, 1833, in Stockholm**
2. What did he do for a living? **He was an inventor**
3. He also lived in other countries – name at least one. **Russia and Italy**
4. Something sad happened in his family – what? **His brother died in an experiment**
5. How do we know that he was a great inventor? **He was granted more than 350 patents**
6. Where did he have factories? **In most European countries and in North America.**
7. When is the Nobel Day and why? **10 December, because Nobel died that day**
8. Why are the prizes called the Nobel Prizes? **Nobel gave the money in his will**
9. In what categories can you get the Nobel Prize? **Literature, medicine, physics, chemistry and peace**
10. In what countries are you awarded? **Sweden and Norway**
11. Who hands out the awards in Stockholm? **The King of Sweden**
12. What happens after the Award Ceremony? **There is a banquet in the Blue Hall in Stockholm City Hall**
13. Since 1969 there is an extra prize. Which? **A prize in economy**
14. Are there any Nobel Prize winners from your country? (use Google)

**Estonia** (Maybe someone in the Soviet time was born in what is now Estonia)

#### **Spain**

Literature: 1904 José Echegaray; 1922 Jacinto Benavente; 1956 Juan Ramón Jiménez; 1977 Vicente Aleixandre; 1989 Camilo José Cela

Medicine: 1959 Severo Ochoa

#### **Sweden**

Literature: 1909 Selma Lagerlöf; 1916 Verner von Heidenstam; 1931 Erik Axel Karlfeldt; 1951 Pär Lagerkvist; 1966 Nelly Sachs; 1974 Eyvind Johnson and Harry Martinson; 2011 Tomas Tranströmer

Physics: 1912 Gustaf Dalén; 1924 Manne Siegbahn; 1970 Hannes Alfvén; 1981 Kai Siegbahn

Chemistry: 1903 Svante August Arrhenius; 1926 Theodor Svedberg; 1929 Hans von Euler-Chelpin (Swedish and German); 1948

Arne Wilhelm Kaurin Tiselius; 2015 Tomas Lindahl  
Medicine: 1911 Allvar Gullstrand; 1955 Hugo Theorell; 1967 Ragnar Granit  
(Swedish and Finnish); 1970 Ulf von Euler; 1981 Torsten N. Wiesel;  
1982 Sune Bergström and Bengt Samuelsson; 2000 Arvid Carlsson  
Peace: 1908 Klas Pontus Arnoldson; 1921 Hjalmar Branting; 1930 Nathan  
Söderblom; 1961 Dag Hammarskjöld; 1982 Alva Myrdal  
(Economy: 1974 Gunnar Myrdal; 1977 Bertil Ohlin)

**The Czech Republic**

Literature: 1984 Jaroslav Seifert

Chemistry: 1959 Jaroslav Heyrovský

(The country with most winners is The USA)