



# Women History Month

## CHIEN-SHIUNG WU

### Reading Comprehension



#### COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

6. Why was Chien-Shiung Wu not included in the Nobel Prize in Physics awarded for the "Wu Experiment"?
- a) She declined the award.
  - b) It was awarded posthumously.
  - c) The Nobel Committee overlooked her.
  - d) She was not directly involved in the experiment.

7. What challenges did Chien-Shiung Wu face?
- a) Lack of educational opportunities.
  - b) Male-dominated field.
  - c) Lack of experimental facilities.
  - d) Limited publications.

8. What did Chien-Shiung Wu contribute to the scientific community?
- a) Increased bureaucracy.
  - b) Future generations of scientists.
  - c) Decreased interest in physics.
  - d) Stagnation in experimental research.

9. What is the primary reason for Chien-Shiung Wu's fame?
- a) Political activism.
  - b) Poetry and literature.
  - c) Scientific contributions.
  - d) Athletic achievements.

10. What does the passage suggest about Chien-Shiung Wu's legacy?
- a) Cooling techniques.
  - b) Automotive engineering.
  - c) Contributions of women in science.
  - d) Ancient history of China.

#### ANSWER KEY



#### CHIEN-SHIUNG WU

In our journey through Women's History Month, we celebrate Chien-Shiung Wu, an exceptional experimental physicist whose groundbreaking work significantly contributed to the field of nuclear physics. Born on May 31, 1912, in Luhsu, China, Wu's legacy extends beyond her remarkable scientific achievements.

Chien-Shiung Wu's early education and passion for physics led her to pursue advanced studies in the United States, where she earned her Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley. Wu's expertise and meticulous experimental skills quickly set her apart in the scientific community.

One of Wu's most notable contributions occurred during the Manhattan Project in the 1940s, where she played a crucial role in the development of the atomic bomb. However, it was her work on the Manhattan Project's substitute project, the separation of uranium isotopes, that showcased her exceptional experimental abilities.

Wu's groundbreaking experiment, known as the "Wu Experiment" in 1956, disproved the long-held belief in the conservation of parity in weak nuclear interactions. This discovery was pivotal in advancing the understanding of fundamental particle physics and earned her colleagues the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1957, though Wu herself was not included in the award.

Throughout her career, Chien-Shiung Wu faced challenges as a woman in a male-dominated field, but her dedication to science and her impactful contributions paved the way for future generations of women in physics. Wu's achievements, including her numerous awards and honors, continue to inspire and influence the scientific community.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, let us honor Chien-Shiung Wu by embracing curiosity, challenging stereotypes, and appreciating the diverse contributions of women in science.

# NO-PREP

# READING PASSAGES WITH TEXT DEPENDENT QUESTIONS

Ready to Print

## CHIEN-SHIUNG WU



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One of Wu's most notable contributions occurred during the Manhattan Project in the 1940s, where she played a crucial role in the development of the atomic bomb. However, it was her work on the Manhattan Project's substitute project, the separation of uranium isotopes, that showcased her exceptional experimental abilities.

Wu's groundbreaking experiment, known as the "Wu Experiment" in 1956, disproved the law of conservation of parity in weak nuclear interactions. This discovery was pivotal in advancing the understanding of fundamental particle physics and earned her colleagues the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1957, though Wu herself was not included in the award.

Throughout her career, Chien-Shiung Wu faced challenges as a woman in a male-dominated field, but her dedication to science and her impactful contributions paved the way for future generations of women in physics. Wu's achievements, including her numerous awards and honors, reflect her enduring legacy.

Learning about Chien-Shiung Wu introduces them to the world of experimental physics, the scientific method, and the importance of perseverance in the face of challenges.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, Chien-Shiung Wu's story encourages us to embrace curiosity, challenge stereotypes, and appreciate the diverse contributions that scientists, regardless of gender, make to our understanding of the world.

### COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

- Why was Chien-Shiung Wu not included in the Nobel Prize in Physics awarded for the "Wu Experiment"?
  - She declined the award.
  - It was awarded posthumously.
  - The Nobel Committee overlooked her contributions.
  - She was not directly involved in the experiment.
- What challenges did Chien-Shiung Wu face in her career?
  - Lack of educational background

### ANSWERS

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

THE CORRECT ANSWER

Chien-Shiung Wu born?

Chien-Shiung Wu earn her Ph.D?

University of California, Berkeley

Chien-Shiung Wu work on during the Manhattan Project

separation of

isotopes

experiment

dis

4. What did the "Wu Experiment" in 1956 disprove?

- Law of Gravity
- Law of Thermodynamics
- Law of Conservation of Mass
- Law of Conservation of Parity

5. Which law did the "Wu Experiment" impact in weak nuclear interactions?

- Law of Conservation of Momentum
- Law of Conservation of Energy
- Law of Conservation of Parity
- Ohm's Law

## READING COMPREHENSION

### ANSWERS

1. a) May 31, 1912
2. a) University of California, Berkeley
3. a) Uranium Isotope Separation
4. a) Law of Conservation of Parity
5. a) Law of Conservation of Parity
6. a) The Nobel Committee overlooked her contributions.
7. b) Male-dominated field
8. b) Future generations of women in physics
9. a) Scientific contributions
10. a) Contributions of women in physics

# CLOSE READING GRAPHIC ORGNIZERS INCLUDED

**GROUP ACTIVITY**

TITLE OF TEXT \_\_\_\_\_

WHAT I THINK \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNOTATING MARKS**

- ✓ Circle powerful words or phrases.
- ✓ Underline words or phrases you do not understand.
- ✓ Place a question mark next to words or phrases you do not understand.
- ✓ Write an explanation of words or phrases you do not understand.

**SUMMARIZE**

Write a summary of the passage. The main idea should be stated in your first sentence. Then use the four details to write four supporting sentences. Close your summary by restating the main idea.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**MAIN IDEA**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE OF TEXT \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN IDEA \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPORTING DETAILS #1 \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPORTING DETAILS #2 \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPORTING DETAILS #3 \_\_\_\_\_

**VOCABULARY GRAPHIC ORGNIZER**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE OF TEXT \_\_\_\_\_

UNKNOWN WORD \_\_\_\_\_

CLUES FROM TEXT & MEANING \_\_\_\_\_

UNKNOWN WORD \_\_\_\_\_

CLUES FROM TEXT & MEANING \_\_\_\_\_

UNKNOWN WORD \_\_\_\_\_

CLUES FROM TEXT & MEANING \_\_\_\_\_