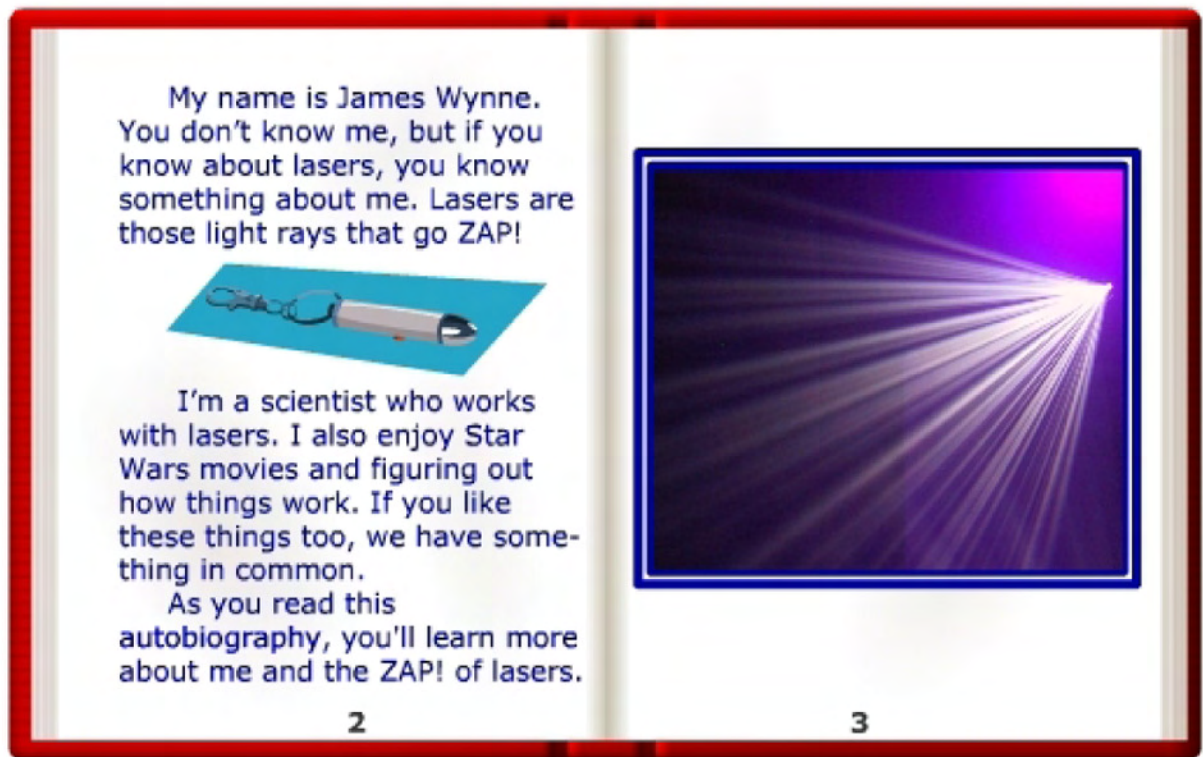


DESTINATION READING COURSE 3

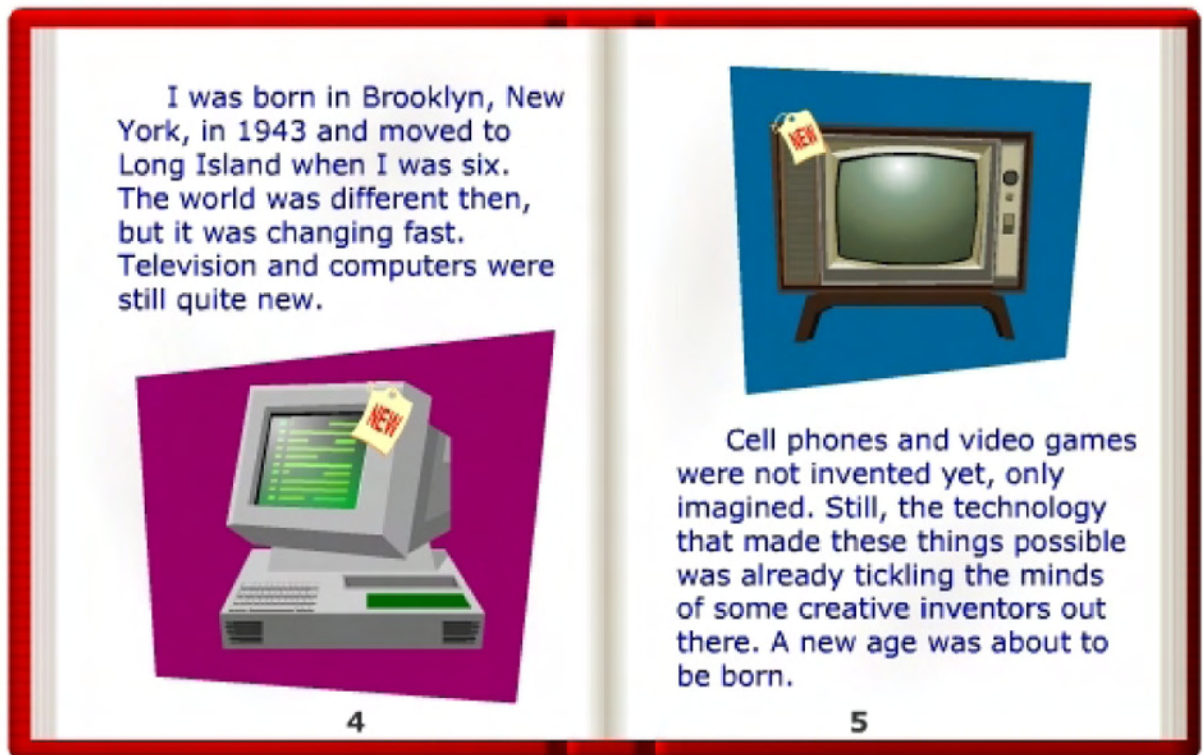
UNIT 14: Autobiography of James Wynne



Do you have any interests in common with James Wynne? I like Star Wars movies, too, and I'm interested in how things work. I don't know much about lasers, though. If I were going to use a Venn Diagram to compare my interests with James Wynne's, I'd put Star Wars and interest in how things work in the overlapping area in the middle. I'd put knowing about lasers in his circle. And maybe fixing bicycles on my side.

DESTINATION READING COURSE 3

UNIT 14: Autobiography of James Wynne

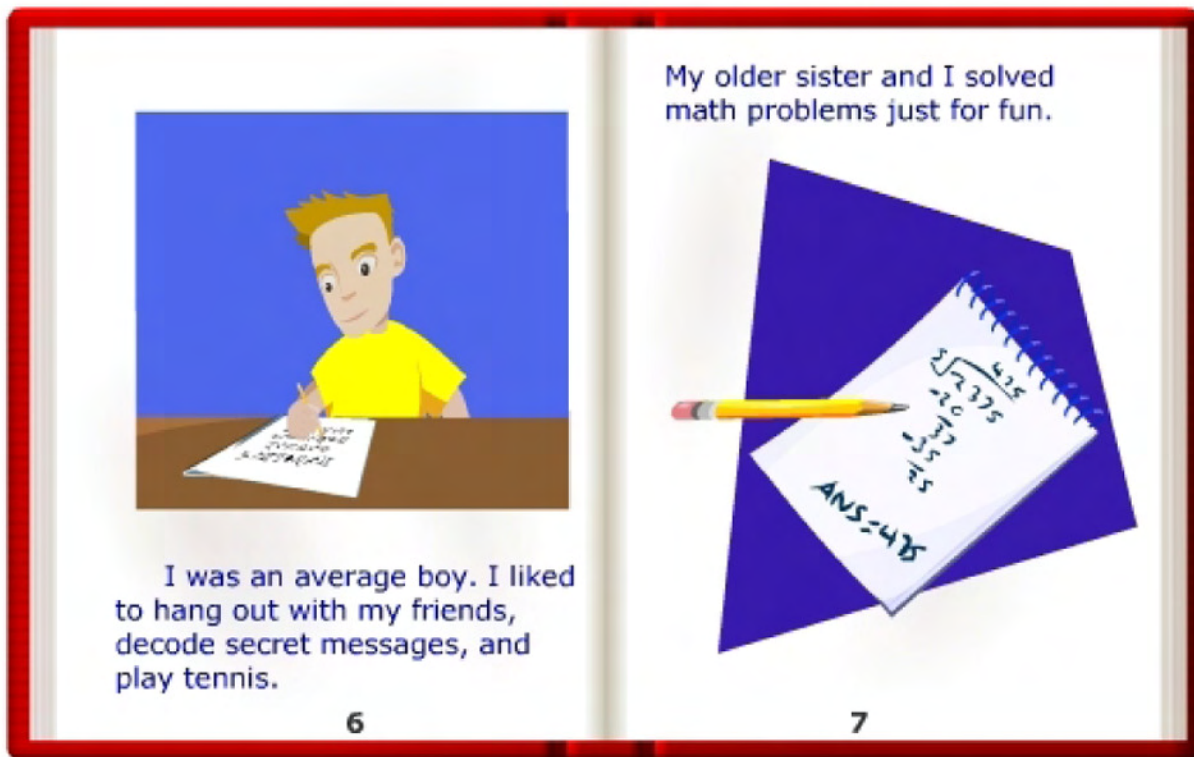


Can you tell in which year the writer moved to Long Island?



Can you find any differences and similarities in the way things were when Wynne was six and the way things are now? How might a Venn Diagram help you show those similarities and differences?

UNIT 14: Autobiography of James Wynne

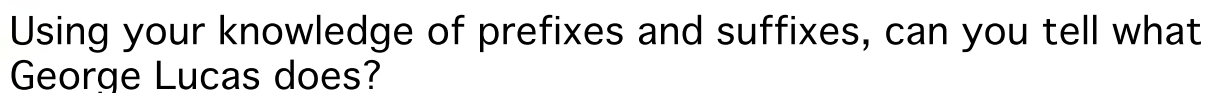


Which word here has a prefix that can help you break the word into meaningful parts? What do you think the word means?

[illegible]

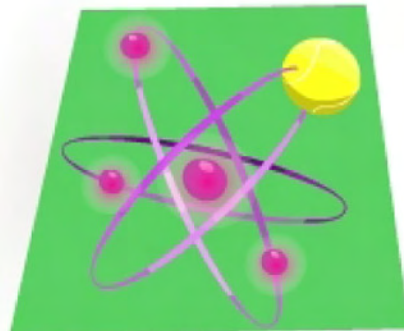
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8

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

UNIT 14: Autobiography of James Wynne

10



The experiments we did in that class were so exciting! From that time on, I was hooked. Physics was my joy.

11



What's your favorite subject at school? Do you think you will talk about it in your autobiography?

[illegible]



12




13



When do you think James got a job? Was it in 1963, or before or after, that year?

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UNIT 14: Autobiography of James Wynne



Within two years, I was managing a team of scientists doing special research with lasers. There were three of us: Rangswamy Srinivasan (Sri for short), Samuel Blum, and myself.

In our lab, we investigated chemical reactions caused by laser light. One day, we made a fantastic discovery.

15

It was unlike the regular lasers in the lab. It had a shorter wavelength, which produced an invisible light. The regular lasers had a longer wavelength and light that could be seen. The invisible laser cut through hard materials, such as plastic, more precisely than visible lasers.

17


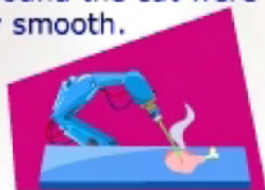


The word "invisible" can be broken into smaller parts that help you read it and understand its meaning. If the prefix "in" means "not," what do you think "invisible" means?

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UNIT 14: Autobiography of James Wynne

After Sri repeated his experiment, we looked through the microscope and saw that the edges around the cut were perfectly smooth.



I then tried the same experiment with a visible laser. It left burned, ragged edges around the cut.

19



How might you make a simple Venn Diagram describing the cuts made by a regular, visible laser and the newer, invisible one?

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Why do you think James Wynne decided to try this part of the experiment on himself instead of someone else?

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The author says that their discovery was eventually used to develop a new kind of eye operation. Why do you think the discovery couldn't be used right away?

[illegible]

DESTINATION READING COURSE 3

UNIT 14: Autobiography of James Wynne

So, after many years I finally got my ray gun. But it didn't blow things up. It healed.



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I still work at IBM. During the winter months, I also teach science to young students. My goal now is to help every student discover the joy of science.

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Do you have a goal that you want to achieve?

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