

Name: _____
Date: _____

7B

Aristotle

Aristotle was the greatest scientist of the ancient world. He believed in using logic and reason to explain natural events in an era when most people believed storms and good harvests were a consequence of the anger or the pleasure of the gods.

Aristotle was born in Macedonia, a mountainous land north of the Greek peninsula. At that time, many Greeks viewed Macedonia as an old fashioned land with no culture. Aristotle moved to Athens and studied at Plato's *Academy*. Plato was a well known philosopher and a student of Socrates. Aristotle remained at the school for more than twenty years until shortly after Plato died.



Aristotle then returned to Macedonia, where King Philip hired him to prepare his thirteen-year-old son, Alexander, for his future role as a military leader. His student would one day be known as

Alexander the Great, one of the greatest military conquerors of all time.

Once Alexander became King of Macedonia, Aristotle returned to Athens and opened a school he called the *Lyceum*. For the next twelve years, Aristotle organized his school as a center of research on astronomy, zoology, geography, geology, physics, anatomy, and many other fields.

Aristotle wrote 170 books, 47 of which still exist more than two thousand years later. Aristotle was also a philosopher who wrote about ethics (the study of moral principals), psychology (the study of the mind and its functions), economics (the study of the production, consumption, and transfer of wealth), theology (the study of religious beliefs), political science (the study of government), and rhetoric (the art of effective or persuasive speaking or writing). Later inventions such as the telescope and microscope would prove many of Aristotle's theories to be incorrect, but his ideas formed the basis of modern science.

Fill in the Blanks

Aristotle was the greatest s_____ of the a_____ world. He believed in using l_____ and r_____ to explain things that happen in *n_____. Aristotle was b_____ in M_____, but he moved to A_____ and studied with P_____ at the A_____. Aristotle then returned home to M_____, where King P_____ hired him to t_____ his son, Alexander. Aristotle later opened a s_____ in A_____ called the L_____, where he conducted r_____ in many fields. Aristotle wrote about many topics, but his greatest i_____ was in the t_____ of l_____. A_____ believed that there was an e_____ for e_____ that h_____ in the u_____.

Answer in complete sentences

1. Explain why the people of Athens considered Aristotle an outsider.

2. What was significant about Aristotle's theory of logic?

*This is a higher order learning question. You must answer the question to the best of your ability, but any reasonable answer will be graded as correct.