

Comprehension: Page 29, exercises 4 and 5

**4** Listen to and read the article again. Working in pairs, summarise the achievements of the four people in the text.

**Suggested answers**

- **Jabir ibn Hayyan** is known as the founder of chemistry. He began the production of sulphuric acid and invented scales that could weigh very light things.
- **Ali ibn Nafi** established the first music school in the world in Cordoba, Al-Andalus, and introduced the Oud to Europe.
- **Fatima al-Fihri** built a learning centre in Morocco, which became a world famous university.
- **Al-Kindi** was a polymath, most famous for his work in arithmetic and geometry.

**5** Do you think that it was easier or more difficult in those days to reach such high levels of achievement in comparison with the present day? Give a reason for your opinion.

**Suggested answer**

I think that it was more difficult for people in the past to reach such high levels of achievement in comparison with the present day: there was much less access to information in the past, so people like Al-Kindi had to be truly revolutionary and creative in their thinking in order to succeed.

Activity Book, page 20, exercises 1 and 2

**Vocabulary**

**1** Complete the sentences with the words in the box. One word is not needed. The first one is done for you.

philosopher

arithmetic

polymath

chemist

geometry

mathematician

physician

1. My father teaches Maths. He's a.....
2. You must not take in medicine without consulting a.....
3. We learn about shapes, lines, and angles when we study.....
4. Mr. Shahin is a true....., working in all kinds of creative and scientific fields.
5. Ramzi is very good with numbers and calculations. He always scores high in .....
6. A ..... is someone who thinks and writes about the meaning of life.

Answers :

- 1 **mathematician**   2 **physician**   3 **geometry**   4 **polymath**  
 5 **arithmetic**   6 **philosopher**

**2** Match the words with the correct definitions. One definition is not needed. The first one is done for you.

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1 .talent.....(g).... | a .an expert in many subjects   |
| 2. founder.....       | b. a room for scientific experiments                                      |
| 3. scale .....        | c. the person who starts something new, such as an organisation or a city |
| 4. polymath .....     | d. an instrument to measure weight  |
| 5. arithmetic .....   | e. an engineer  |
| 6. Laboratory .....   | f. the study of numbers   |
|                       | g. special ability  |

**Answers:**

1. g    2. c    3. d    4. a    5. f    6. b