



Questions asked by high school students to Professor Koshiba, the Nobel laureate 2002

Zofia Gotqb-Meyer

*Marian Smoluchowski Institute of Physics
Jagellonian University, Cracow, Poland*

Three years ago a few hundred high school students were asked to formulate questions to the Nobel laureates of 1999. From among those questions some were chosen and presented via the Internet to Professor Koshiba, the Nobel laureate of 2002. Professor Koshiba was kind to answer. The interview was not very interactive. Some questions, from which we could learn how Professor Koshiba became interested in physics, remain not answered.



Could you share with us, how do you come up with an idea for which one gets the Nobel Prize?

– Don't know how to answer.

How long have you been working on the problem for which you were awarded the Nobel Prize?

– 20 years.

What do you like the most in the profession of a physicist?

– To find something new.

Do you prefer to work alone or in a group?

– In small groups.

Did you enjoy your school?

– Yes, and no.

Did you like physics and mathematics at school?

– Not particularly

Did you have a private tutor, like many Japanese schoolchildren have today?

– *No*

When you were young, did you like to talk with your parents or anyone from your family about physics?

– *No*

What were your hobbies and your favorite subjects at school?

– *Nothing particular*

What is your hobby at the present time?

– *Listen to Mozart*

Did your children enjoy physics as well?

– *No*

Do they work in physics?

– *No, but son is engineer*

This is a very personal question: How did you meet your wife?

– *Meeting was arranged by our common senior friends.*

Do you ever talk with your wife or children about your work and progress in the research

– *No*

Do you enjoy reading literature?

– *Sometimes*

What kind of sport did you practiced?

– *None*



Young Masatoshi
in kendo dress



Family picture.
Masatoshi Koshiba first from right

Foton thanks Professor Koshiba for the pictures from his collection.

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