Aristotle was a philosopher, scientist, and teacher who lived in Greece and Macedonia. Today, people still study and use Aristotle’s ideas and discoveries (things he learned), even though he lived and worked over 2000 years ago.

Aristotle was born in 384 BCE in Northern Greece. He studied medicine when he was growing up, but left home as a young man to move to Athens, Greece. There, he studied philosophy. “Philosophy” is the study of knowledge. People who study philosophy are called philosophers. They look at the world and try to understand how the world works. They try to understand how everything in the world is connected.
Aristotle studied philosophy under one of the great philosophers: Plato. He studied with Plato at Plato’s Academy for many years. During his time studying, he found that he disagreed with some of Plato’s ideas. For example, Plato believed that knowledge (knowing things) came from logic (thinking things). Aristotle believed that knowledge came from experience (doing things). Aristotle believed that touching and feeling and doing many different things was the only way to know about everything in our world.

After studying with Plato, Aristotle travelled for a while. He studied other subjects like science and moved around to other countries. Eventually, moved to a country called Macedonia, which is near Greece. Here, he became Alexander the Great’s teacher. After teaching Alexander the Great, who was a powerful leader, Aristotle opened his own school. He called the school the Lyceum. At the Lyceum, he taught his own philosophy as well as much of the science that he had studied.

When Aristotle got older, he found that he disagreed with the Macedonian government. He disagreed with them so much that he worried his life was in danger. As a result, he decided to leave Macedonia and go into exile. “Exile” is when a person leaves their home forever and doesn’t return. He
moved to an island called Euboea. He died there in 322 BCE when he was 62 years old.

Aristotle’s ideas and teachings live on today. His philosophy is widely studied and his scientific discoveries were the foundation (base) for much of the science that we use today. For example, Aristotle was the first person to classify animals and plants. He studied many animals and put them into categories (groups) based on what they had in common. Today, we do this in biology. It is called the Classification System. Today’s system is based on (goes back to) Aristotle’s system.

Another important change that Aristotle made to science was to use observational science. Before Aristotle, people talked about science and came up with ideas but didn’t spend a lot of time observing or looking at animals, plants, and the earth. Aristotle did experiments and research. He learned by studying the animals, plants, and earth. This is still the way that a lot of science is done today.

While Aristotle is most famous for being a philosopher, he also had an important impact (effect) on science as well. Even today, over 2000 years after his death, his work is respected and used in schools around the world.
Aristotle Worksheet – Exercises

A. Answer the following questions.

1. Whom did Aristotle study philosophy with in Athens, Greece?
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

2. Where did Aristotle believe knowledge came from?
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

3. What is an example of Aristotle’s scientific work that we still use today?
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

B. Rewrite the following sentences as negative sentences, yes/no questions, WH-questions (using the underlined word) and tag questions.

Examples for the sentence “Aristotle was a philosopher.”

   **Negative:** Aristotle was not a philosopher.

   **Yes/No Question:** Was Aristotle a philosopher?

   **WH-Question:** What was Aristotle?

   **Tag Question:** Aristotle was a philosopher, wasn’t he?
1. Philosophy is the study of knowledge.

Negative: 

Yes/No Question: 

WH-Question: 

Tag Question: 

2. He called the school the Lyceum.

Negative: 

Yes/No Question: 

WH-Question: 

Tag Question: 

3. He moved to an island called Euboea.

Negative: 

Yes/No Question: 

WH-Question: 

Tag Question:
C. Write the correct word in the blank.

1. Aristotle was born in 384 BCE _________ Northern Greece.
   a) in                     b) on                     c) at

2. There, _________ studied philosophy.
   a) him                    b) his                    c) he

3. People _________ study philosophy are called philosophers.
   a) which                   b) who                    c) that

4. He studied with Plato at Plato’s Academy _________ many years.
   a) for                    b) by                     c) since

5. _________ studying with Plato, Aristotle travelled for a while.
   a) Since                  b) When                   c) After

6. He decided _________ Macedonia and go into exile.
   a) leave                  b) to leave               c) leaving

7. Aristotle’s ideas _________ teachings live on today.
   a) or                     b) but                    c) and

8. Aristotle _________ experiments and research.
   a) did                    b) does                   c) do
Aristotle Worksheet – Answers

A. Answer the following questions.

1. Whom did Aristotle study philosophy with in Athens, Greece?

Aristotle studied philosophy with Plato.

2. Where did Aristotle believe knowledge came from?

He believed that knowledge came from experience.

3. What is an example of Aristotle’s scientific work that we still use today?

The Classification System used in biology is an example of Aristotle’s scientific work that we still use today.

B. Rewrite the following sentences as negative sentences, yes/no questions, WH-questions (using the underlined word) and tag questions.

Examples for the sentence “Aristotle was a philosopher.”

Negative: Aristotle was not a philosopher.

Yes/No Question: Was Aristotle a philosopher?

WH-Question: What was Aristotle?

Tag Question: Aristotle was a philosopher, wasn’t he?
1. Philosophy is the study of knowledge.

**Negative:** Philosophy is not the study of knowledge

**Yes/No Question:** Is philosophy the study of knowledge?

**WH-Question:** What is the study of knowledge?

**Tag Question:** Philosophy is the study of knowledge, isn’t it?

2. He called the school the Lyceum.

**Negative:** He did not call the school the Lyceum.

**Yes/No Question:** Did he call the school the Lyceum?

**WH-Question:** What did he call the school?

**Tag Question:** He called the school the Lyceum, didn’t he?

3. He moved to an island called Euboea.

**Negative:** He didn’t move to an island called Euboea.

**Yes/No Question:** Did he move to an island called Euboea?

**WH-Question:** Where did he move?

**Tag Question:** He moved to an island called Euboea, didn’t he?
C. Write the correct word in the blank.

1. Aristotle was born in 384 BCE in Northern Greece.
   a) in  
   b) on  
   c) at

2. There, he studied philosophy.
   a) him  
   b) his  
   c) he

3. People who study philosophy are called philosophers.
   a) which  
   b) who  
   c) that

4. He studied with Plato at Plato’s Academy for many years.
   a) for  
   b) by  
   c) since

5. After studying with Plato, Aristotle travelled for a while.
   a) Since  
   b) When  
   c) After

6. He decided to leave Macedonia and go into exile.
   a) leave  
   b) to leave  
   c) leaving

7. Aristotle’s ideas and teachings live on today.
   a) or  
   b) but  
   c) and

8. Aristotle did experiments and research.
   a) did  
   b) does  
   c) do