

## Bill Gates - The Richest Man in the World



Bill Gates was born in 1955 in Seattle, Washington. His father was a lawyer and his mother was a banker. His family was very wealthy so he went to the best schools. He enjoyed mathematics and science in primary school. He started to learn about computers in secondary school in 1967. At that time, computers were not even available to the public. In 1973, he went to Harvard University to study Computer Science.

Bill didn't finish university. When he was only 19, he and a school friend left university to start careers in computers. They were entrepreneurs. They started their own company. They named their company Microsoft. By the early 1980's, almost everyone in the world was buying computers with Microsoft software on them. Bill and his business partner became very rich men.

Bill Gates is now the richest person in the world. In 1999, he had more than \$100 billion dollars. He bought a very big house with a beautiful garden. He lives there with his wife and three children. He also likes to buy famous paintings and art.

He doesn't spend all his money – he likes to give it away too! He and his wife started a charity in 2000. They give money to schools to help poor people pay for college. They give money to scientists finding cures for diseases like AIDS. Since 2000, he has donated over \$29 billion to charity.

Everybody knows who Bill Gates is. His office gets about 4 million e-mails a day. Most of it is "junk" mail, offering to help him get rich quick or to get out of debt.

Not everybody likes Bill Gates. He sometimes goes to court to defend his company. Other computer companies think Bill has too much power.

Bill Gates says he wishes that he was not the richest man in the world. He doesn't like all the attention he gets from people.

(Adapted from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia)

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1. Where was Bill Gates born? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What 3 subjects did he like in school? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Why didn't Bill finish university? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What was the name of his new business? \_\_\_\_\_
5. When did Bill start to become very rich? \_\_\_\_\_
6. How much money did he have in 1999? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Who does his charity give money to? \_\_\_\_\_
8. How much did his charity give? \_\_\_\_\_
9. How many e-mails does he get in an average day? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Why don't other companies like Bill Gates? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Is Bill very happy to be rich? Why? \_\_\_\_\_
12. Would you like to be Bill Gates? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

### New Words

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