

Ig Nobel Prize: Laugh First, Think Later

A scientist tested what shouting does to your driving. Another scientist found out that human spit is actually good to clean things. All these scientists found out funny, silly things. Even more funny is that they won a prize for their discoveries: an Ig Nobel Prize.

5 Silly prize

The Ig Nobel Prize makes fun of the famous Nobel Prize. The first Ig Nobel prize ceremony was in 1991. This year, the 28th prize was given at Harvard University in the USA. Ten prizes were given for weird or funny research that scientists have done. The prize was a trophy, as well as a \$10 trillion dollar bill. But, not in US dollars. It was in Zimbabwe dollars.

10 That is the same as a few US cents.

Funny traditions

The ceremony is full of funny traditions. If the prize winner speaks for more than a minute, an 8-year-old girl yells out loudly: "Please stop: I'm bored". She is called Miss Sweetie Poo. The people in the audience fold paper airplanes from their programmes and fly them at the stage.

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Some prize winners

20 The Ig Nobel prize for medicine was for finding out that riding on a roller coaster can help kidney stones pop out of your body. Some of this research may seem silly at first, but it can be helpful. That is why these awards make you laugh first and think later.

Sources: www.en.wikipedia.org; www.sciencemag.org;
www.bbc.co.uk.



Photo: CJ Gunther (ANP)

People fly paper airplanes



Roller coaster – good for kidney stones