

# Andrew Wiles

## Quotes

*Problem, Mean, Science, Morning, Trying, Adults, Long, Proof, Love, Sleep,  
Childhood, Way, Solutions, Attention, Oil, Problems In School, Umpires,  
Mathematics, Understanding, People*

I tried to fit it in with some previous broad conceptual understanding of some part of mathematics that would clarify the particular problem I was thinking about.

~Andrew Wiles

Pure mathematicians just love to try unsolved problems - they love a challenge.

~Andrew Wiles

Always try the problem that matters most to you.

~Andrew Wiles

I had this rare privilege of being able to pursue in my adult life, what had been my childhood dream.

~Andrew Wiles

Mathematicians aren't satisfied because they know there are no solutions up to four million or four billion, they really want to know that there are no solutions up to infinity.

~Andrew Wiles

The definition of a good mathematical problem is the mathematics it generates rather than the problem itself.

~Andrew Wiles

I grew up in Cambridge in England, and my love of mathematics dates from those early childhood days.

~Andrew Wiles

The greatest problem for mathematicians now is probably the Riemann Hypothesis.

~Andrew Wiles

I never use a computer.

~Andrew Wiles

However impenetrable it seems, if you don't try it, then you can never do it.

~Andrew Wiles

Just because we can't find a solution it doesn't mean that there isn't one.

~Andrew Wiles

Fermat said he had a proof.

~Andrew Wiles

I know it's a rare privilege, but if one can really tackle something in adult life that means that much to you, then it's more rewarding than anything I can imagine.

~Andrew Wiles

Then when I reached college, I realized that many people had thought about the problem during the 18th and 19th centuries and so I studied those methods.

~Andrew Wiles

Mathematics... is a bit like discovering oil. ... But mathematics has one great advantage over oil, in that no one has yet ... found a way that you can keep using the same oil forever.

~Andrew Wiles

I was so obsessed by this problem that I was thinking about it all the time - when I woke up in the morning, when I went to sleep at night - and that went on for eight years.

~Andrew Wiles

It's fine to work on any problem, so long as it generates interesting

mathematics along the way - even if you don't solve it at the end of the day.

~Andrew Wiles

I loved doing problems in school.

~Andrew Wiles

There are proofs that date back to the Greeks that are still valid today.

~Andrew Wiles

The only way I could relax was when I was with my children.

~Andrew Wiles

But the best problem I ever found, I found in my local public library.

~Andrew Wiles

That particular odyssey is now over. My mind is now at rest.

~Andrew Wiles

I really believed that I was on the right track, but that did not mean that I would necessarily reach my goal

~Andrew Wiles

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