

Who Was Florence Nightingale?



Aim

- I can read and understand a simple biography.

Success Criteria

- I can think of questions to find out more about a person.
- I can recognise the features of a biography.
- I can ask and answer questions based on the information I have read.

A Letter from Hospital

Dear Miss Smith

I am writing to let you know my knee operation went very well yesterday. I arrived at 9 o'clock and thanks to you, I had everything I needed in my bag.

The porter helped me take my things to the ward and I had time to unpack and even start a crossword!

It was all over and done with in an hour and I was soon back on the ward. The nurses have all been wonderful. They are gentle, caring and helpful. One nurse in particular has been excellent. Florence Nightingale would be proud of this young man!

Anyway, I had better be off. It is nearly time for my tea. Thank you again for all your help, I really didn't need to have worried. I hope all is well with you and your class at school are behaving.

Best wishes,
Clive Jenner

What things in this letter could be a result of Florence Nightingale's work?

What I Want to Know

Look at this picture of Florence Nightingale.

What can you tell from this picture?

How will you find out about her?

Read the biography about Florence Nightingale to find out more about her amazing life.



What Is a Biography?

A biography:

has a title;

has an introduction with a brief overview of who the text is about;

describes key events or people in a person's life;

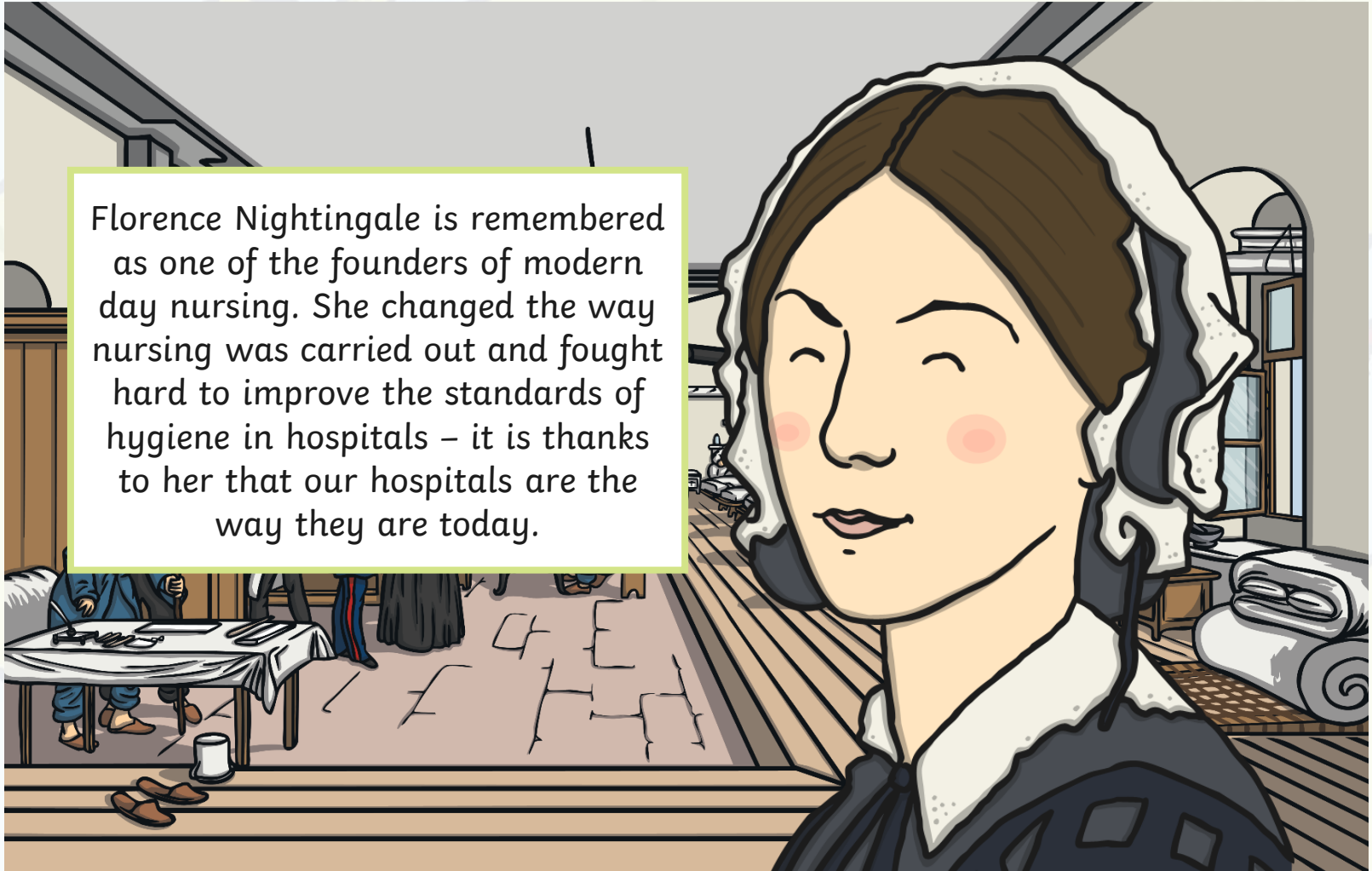
describes their achievements, and how they are remembered;

describes their personality;

describes how they are remembered.

Who Was Florence Nightingale?

Florence Nightingale is remembered as one of the founders of modern day nursing. She changed the way nursing was carried out and fought hard to improve the standards of hygiene in hospitals – it is thanks to her that our hospitals are the way they are today.

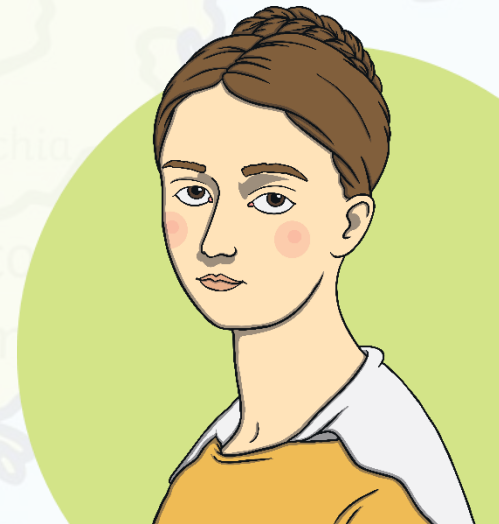
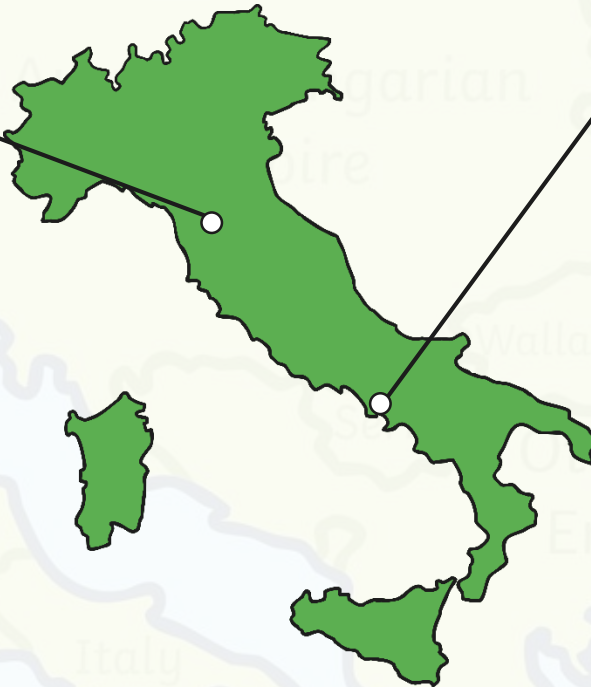


Who Was Florence Nightingale?

Florence was born on the 12th May 1820 in Italy. She lived with her father, who was doctor, her mother and her older sister Parthenope ('Pop'). Her family was a rich British family. Both girls were named after the places in Italy they were born.

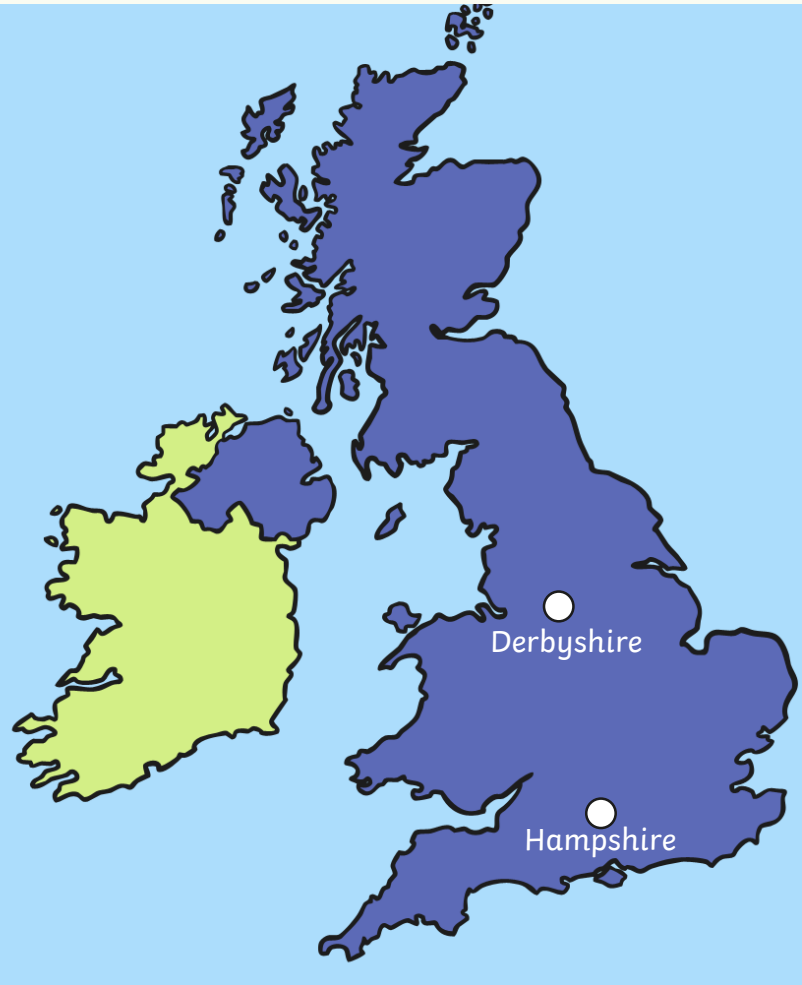
Florence

Parthenope (Naples)



Who Was Florence Nightingale?

Florence and Pop grew up in large country houses in Hampshire and Derbyshire. They travelled around the world and had an excellent education from their father at home. This was unusual for young girls from wealthy families as they were not expected to be educated, but to marry and look after the home. Florence was very good at maths and science. As she grew up, she did not want to get married and just look after the home. She knew from an early age that she was going to help people somehow.



Growing Up

Florence believed that God wanted her to do important work. She knew she wanted to be a nurse, but at this time nursing was not a **respectable** job for ladies. Nurses were not trained and hospitals were unhygienic, horrible places, but Florence wanted to change this.

Her mother and father did not want her to become a nurse. They sent her away to Italy to try to make her forget about her **ambition**. While she was there, she met a young man who told her rich people should help others. This made her more **determined** than ever to become a nurse.



Growing Up



Finally, Florence persuaded her parents and was allowed to go to Germany in 1851 to train to be a nurse. In 1853, she got her first job, running a hospital for women in London. Here she made excellent improvements to the care that the patients had.

Did you know?

At this time, operations were performed without anaesthetic. Most people who went into hospital died while they were there because they were so unhygienic.



Glossary

ambition:

A strong wish to do something.

anaesthetic:

Medicine that stops you feeling pain.

determined:

Wanting to do something and not letting anything stop you.

diseases:

An infection that makes people or animals sick instead of an accident.

founders:

A person who starts an organisation or group.

hygiene/hygienic:

How people or places keep clean/being clean.

respectable:

Pleasant, good.

unhygienic:

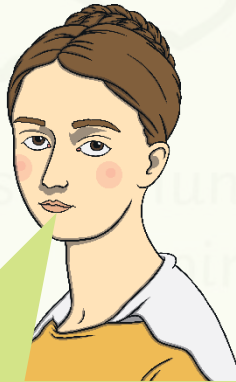
Not clean, in a way that might cause disease.

wealthy:

With plenty of money.

Who Said That?

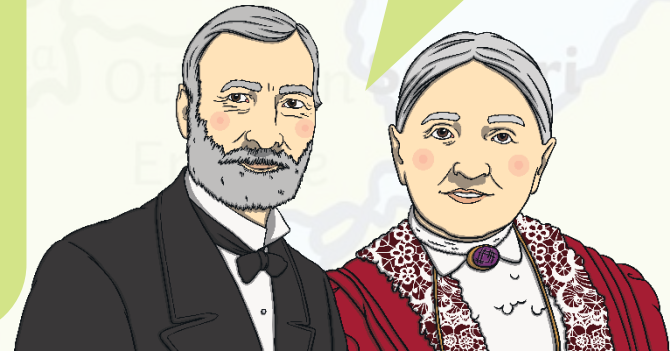
I know God wants me to help other people. I am determined to become a nurse when I am older.



No daughter of ours is going to be a nurse. It is a disgusting and dangerous job. She shall have to go to Italy where she can forget all about this silly idea.



I can't believe my own sister wants to become a nurse. Our place is to grow up and marry a nice young man. Poor mother and father! It is such a worry.



Who Said That?

There she is... that young woman who wants to be a nurse. What is she thinking? It is disgraceful!



I wish Miss Nightingale would be my wife, but I know she will never marry.