

1. Cleopatra

On August 30th, 30 BC, Cleopatra took her asp in her hand and ... the rest is history. This week we take a look at the Egyptian queen whose beauty was famous throughout the world. But was she Egyptian? Or beautiful? Read the text and be a better person for it. There are two pages to print. Click here to get your copies.

<http://www.insideout.net/warehouse/worksheets/august/IO061S-cleopatra.pdf>

Level

Good Intermediate and upwards

How to use the lesson

1. Start the lesson by asking what your students know about Cleopatra. Accept all suggestions, whether right or wrong, but offer no answers at this stage.
2. Give a copy of Worksheet A to each student and ask them to read the text. Set a time limit of seven minutes for this.
3. When students have finished reading ask them to turn Worksheet A over so they can't see the text. Give each student in the class a copy of Worksheet B. Ask students to work in pairs to see if they can remember information from the text to answer the true / false questions.
4. After a certain amount of time, give pairs a chance to answer any questions they couldn't do by looking back at the text.
5. Ask the students to correct the statements which were wrong.
6. Check answers in open class.

Answers

1. False (She was the third child and there were four daughters in the family)
2. False (The Pyramids were built 2500 years before Cleopatra was born)
3. False (She was Macedonian, not Egyptian)
4. True
5. False (It was named after Alexander the Great)
6. True
7. False (It was the other way round – she was 18, he was 12)
8. True
9. True
10. False (The coins depict a fairly unattractive woman)
11. True
12. True
13. True
14. True
15. False (She became Octavian's prisoner, not his lover)

16. False (She did not have any children by him)
17. False (Mark Antony killed himself by falling onto his sword)
18. True
19. False (She died from a snake bite)
20. False (She was 39 when she died)

2. Related Websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://www.fmnh.org/cleopatra/>

Check out the Cleopatra exhibition in The Field Museum, Chicago

<http://www.artic.edu/cleo/>

Let the Art Institute of Chicago show you around

<http://sangha.net/messengers/cleopatra/Coins.htm>

Here are the images of Cleopatra on the coins – you decide

<http://sangha.net/messengers/cleopatra.htm>

For all things Cleopatra