

Marie Curie



You are going to watch a video about the famous scientist Marie Curie and compare it with the given text.

Marie Curie was born in Poland on the 7th November 1867. She is most famous for the discovery of the radioactive elements polonium and radium.

Marie Curie wasn't always a famous scientist. First, she was a little girl born in Hungary. Her family had five children and her parents were both teachers. 1) _____. Marie had a very loving family, but they weren't always happy. Her mother died from tuberculosis when Marie was ten.

It was against the law for girls to go to the university at that time. 2) _____. Marie and her sister agreed to help each other go to the university. Marie's elder sister, Bronia, became a doctor. Marie worked as a governess to pay for her sister's studying. Later, Marie went to Paris in 1891 to study at the Sorbonne. 3) _____.

In 1895 Marie married Pierre Curie, and together they began working on radiation experiments with uranium. In 1898 the Curies discovered polonium and radium. Marie named polonium after her favorite Motherland-Poland. In 1903 they shared the Nobel Prize for physics with Henri Becquerel. When Pierre was killed in an accident in 1906, Marie took over his post as a professor at the Sorbonne, becoming the first woman to teach there. 4) _____.

During the First World War Marie realized that the X-rays could help doctors see the bullets embedded in the soldiers' bodies and remove them, as well as locate broken bones. Many hospitals in France already had X-ray equipment, but those machines were often far from the battlefield. Her X-ray machines were mobile and could go on trucks. She set up about 200 radiological units during the war.

5) _____. Together with her daughter Marie set up a training program at the Radium Institute to teach doctors to operate the X-ray equipment. Her work helped a lot to detect such serious diseases as cancer and tuberculosis. Marie Curie died on the 4th of July 1934 from leukemia as a result of her exposure to radiation during her research. She was the first woman to be entombed on her own merits in the Pantheon in Paris.

Marie had two daughters, one of whom, Irène, went on to win the Nobel Prize for chemistry in 1935. The element curium, discovered in 1944, is named after the Curie family. Marie Curie is the example of a great mind, not only because of her scientific achievements in a male dominated field, but also because of her ability to combine the research efforts with the needs of motherhood and the ability to continue working after the tragic loss of her husband. She will never be forgotten. 6) _____.

1. These sentences were taken out of the text. Find the correct place for them.

- A. Another obstacle was that her father had too little money to support her ambition to go to university.
- B. Despite all difficulties, she took two Master's degrees — one in physics, the other in mathematics and became a brilliant scientist.
- C. They loved books, poetry and science and taught their children many things.
- D. After the war she concentrated her time on investigating the medical application of radioactive materials.
- E. She was awarded a second Nobel in 1911 (for chemistry) for her work on radium and its compounds.
- F. Her work helped advance the medical science and save thousands of lives.

2. Find the necessary word to complete a sentence in the word search.

- 1) Marie Curie wasn't always a famous _____.
- 2) Marie's sister, _____, became a doctor - something unheard of for _____ then.
- 3) Marie discovered _____ and polonium. These two elements are _____.
- 4) Marie's husband, _____, was a notable scientist too.
- 5) Marie and her husband won a _____ Prize for their work.
- 6) After her husband's death Marie became the first woman _____ at the _____.
- 7) Madame Curie invented the _____. During World _____ 1, she made mobile X-ray machines.
- 8) Madame Curie died in 1934 of _____, caused by exposure to radiation.

H	N	E	K	D	P	X	S	U	T	B	V	W	R	P	B
S	S	G	Q	U	I	M	C	A	A	N	J	Y	A	U	T
H	O	Z	E	O	E	F	I	R	V	C	R	Y	D	T	A
E	R	V	X	X	R	P	E	W	J	X	Y	K	I	K	H
G	B	P	N	B	R	O	N	I	A	I	E	S	U	B	L
Z	O	M	U	J	E	Y	T	L	E	U	K	E	M	I	A
U	N	B	D	R	A	D	I	O	A	C	T	I	V	E	D
W	N	J	A	R	F	H	S	Z	W	O	M	E	N	W	M
A	E	T	X	N	X	D	T	R	I	N	O	B	E	L	A
R	L	E	D	A	P	R	O	F	E	S	S	O	R	U	H

3. How are people today benefitting from the work of Marie Curie?
