Florence Nightingale: The Lady with the Lamp

Learning objective: To recall key facts about the life and work of Florence Nightingale, understanding her impact on nursing and hospital hygiene during the Crimean War.

Read the information passage carefully and use it to answer the 10 questions below. Good luck, historians!

Florence Nightingale (1820–1910) was a famous British nurse. During the Crimean War, she travelled to the hospital in Scutari. She was shocked by the poor conditions; the wards were dirty, and there were few supplies. Florence worked hard to improve sanitary conditions by cleaning the wards and ensuring patients had fresh air and good food. She became known as 'The Lady with the Lamp' because she walked through the wards at night to check on the wounded soldiers. After the war, she opened the Nightingale Training School to teach others how to be professional nurses. Her dedication changed how hospitals were run forever.

Word bank: Crimean War · Scutari · Hygiene · Nightingale Training School · Sanitary · Nursing

1. 1. In which war did Florence Nightingale serve as a nurse? A) World War I B) The Crimean War* C) The Napoleonic Wars D) The Boer War (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: Florence Nightingale believed that keeping a hospital clean (hygiene) was not important. (1 mark)

3. 3. What was the name of the place where Florence worked during the war? (1 word answer) (1 mark)

4. 4. Why was Florence called 'The Lady with the Lamp'? A) She sold lamps B) She carried one at night to check on patients* C) She invented the oil lamp D) She worked in a dark basement (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: Florence Nightingale opened a school to train other nurses. (1 mark)

6. 6. Name one thing Florence did to improve the hospital conditions. (1 word answer) (1 mark)

7. 7. What was the main focus of Florence's work in the hospitals? A) Painting B) Writing poetry C) Improving hygiene and patient care* D) Building new ships (1 mark)

8. 8. True or False: Florence Nightingale lived during the Victorian era. (1 mark)

9. 9. Before Florence's changes, were the hospitals clean or dirty? (1 mark)

10. 10. Which profession did Florence Nightingale help to make more professional? A) Farming B) Engineering C) Nursing* D) Architecture (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a picture of Florence Nightingale holding a lantern, walking through a hospital ward at night.

Extension challenge: Ellie the elephant is curious! Research one other person who helped change medicine or nursing in history and write three sentences about why they are important.