

Exploring Lives: A Biography of Captain Elena

Learning objective: To identify and understand the key features of a biography, including chronological order and the use of third-person pronouns.

Read the short biography about the famous explorer, Captain Elena. Once you have finished reading, answer the questions below to test your understanding of how biographies are written.

Captain Elena was born in a small coastal village in 1975. From a very young age, she was fascinated by the sea and spent hours watching the tides. After finishing her studies in navigation, she decided to dedicate her life to mapping the hidden coral reefs of the Southern Isles. In 2005, she led a team of experts on a daring expedition that lasted three years. Her most famous discovery happened in 2008, when she found an ancient, sunken trading ship filled with historical artefacts. Captain Elena wrote several books about her travels, hoping to inspire the next generation of explorers to protect the ocean. Today, she lives quietly by the coast, still looking out at the horizon.

Word bank: Chronological · Biography · Accomplishments · Third-person · Factual · Significant

1. What is a biography? Explain this in your own words using a full sentence. (2 marks)

2. Find two dates mentioned in the text. Why are dates important in a biography? (2 marks)

3. Which pronouns are used to describe Captain Elena (e.g., I, you, she, they)? Why are these pronouns used in a biography? (2 marks)

4. What was Captain Elena's most significant accomplishment mentioned in the text? (1 mark)

5. Look at the word 'chronological'. Based on the passage, why do you think biographies are written in chronological order? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Captain Elena standing on her ship, looking through a telescope at the horizon. Include a small label pointing to one item she might have found on her expedition.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are interviewing Captain Elena! Write three questions you would ask her about her time at sea. Remember to use a question mark at the end of each sentence.