

Mapping a Life: The Biography Timeline Challenge

Learning objective: To understand the structure of a biography by sequencing key life events and identifying the features of chronological recount.

Ellie the elephant is helping a local historian organize the life story of an inspirational inventor. Look at the mixed-up events below. Cut them out or number them from 1 to 6 to create a correct chronological sequence for a biography. Once you have ordered them, use the 'Biography Toolkit' words to label the types of information each event provides.

Word bank: Early Life · Major Achievement · Education · Legacy · Turning Point · Childhood Inspiration

1. **1. In 1892, she was born in a small village, showing an early talent for tinkering with mechanical clocks. (Label: _____) (2 marks)**

 2. **2. During her primary school years, she spent every weekend in the local library reading books about ancient engineering. (Label: _____) (2 marks)**

 3. **3. She attended the London Institute of Technology, where she earned a degree in mechanical design. (Label: _____) (2 marks)**

 4. **4. After a failed prototype in 1915, she decided to change her approach to using sustainable materials. (Label: _____) (2 marks)**

 5. **5. In 1920, she successfully patented the world's first solar-powered water pump, revolutionising irrigation. (Label: _____) (2 marks)**

 6. **6. Today, her designs are still used in schools to teach children about renewable energy and innovation. (Label: _____) (2 marks)**
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Draw: Draw a 'Life Line' for a person you admire. Include at least three icons representing their birth, a big challenge they faced, and their greatest success.



Extension challenge: Choose one of the events from the timeline and expand it into a short paragraph. Use at least two adverbs of time (e.g., 'subsequently', 'meanwhile', 'eventually') to help the reader understand the sequence of events.