

Florence Nightingale: The Lady with the Lamp

Learning objective: To write a biographical account of the life and legacy of Florence Nightingale, explaining her impact on nursing and hospital hygiene.

Use the writing frame below to help you structure your biography. Remember to use formal language, third-person perspective, and historical vocabulary to describe her achievements.

Florence Nightingale was a pioneering figure who changed the way the world viewed nursing and hospital care forever.

Word bank: furthermore · consequently · sanitation · significant · compassion · pioneering · notwithstanding · legacy · hospital conditions · in addition

1. Early Life and Ambition: Describe Florence's early life and explain why she chose a career in nursing despite her family's expectations. Start your paragraph with: 'Born in 1820, Florence Nightingale felt a strong calling to...' (3 marks)

2. The Crimean War: Detail the challenges Florence faced when she arrived at Scutari Hospital. Use the prompt: 'Upon her arrival at the military hospital, Florence was shocked to find...' (3 marks)

3. Improving Hygiene: Explain the specific changes Florence implemented to reduce the death rate. Start with: 'Determined to save lives, she introduced strict new standards such as...' (4 marks)

4. The Lady with the Lamp: Explain the origin of her famous nickname and how the soldiers felt about her. Start with: 'At night, Florence would walk through the wards holding a lamp, which led the soldiers to...' (3 marks)

5. Lasting Legacy: Reflect on why her work is still important in modern hospitals today. Start with: 'Florence Nightingale's influence remains significant because...' (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Research a different historical figure from the 19th century who made a significant contribution to science or medicine. Create a comparison table identifying three similarities between their work and Florence Nightingale's.