

Biography Blueprint: Documenting a Life

Learning objective: To structure a biographical account using chronological order, formal tone, and specific historical details.

Use this template to organise the life story of an inspirational person. Research your chosen subject carefully to ensure accuracy. Use formal language, third-person perspective (he/she/they), and chronological order. Remember to include transition words like 'subsequently', 'meanwhile', and 'following this' to create a cohesive narrative.

Word bank: Chronological · Legacy · Influential · Accomplishment · Significance · Perspective · Timeline · Contribution

1. Introduction: State the subject's name, birth details, and a summary of why they are a significant historical or contemporary figure. (3 marks)

2. Early Life and Education: Describe their childhood, family background, and the educational experiences that shaped their future aspirations. (4 marks)

3. Key Turning Points: Identify a specific moment or challenge that changed the subject's life. Explain why this event was a pivotal turning point. (4 marks)

4. Major Achievements: Detail the primary accomplishments of the subject. Use specific dates or timeframes to maintain a clear chronology. (4 marks)

5. Personal Reflection: Compare and contrast the subject's early ambitions with the legacy they left behind. Justify why their work still matters today. (5 marks)

6. The Wider Impact: Explain why society looks back on this person's life as a model for others. What might happen if this person had never pursued their goals? (5 marks)

Extension challenge: Construct a 'Legacy Statement' for your subject. In 100 words, write a persuasive summary explaining how future generations will remember this person. Use sophisticated vocabulary and ensure your tone is respectful and analytical. If you were interviewing this person, which three deep questions would you ask to uncover a detail not found in history books?