

A Life in Focus: The Story of Admiral Elara

Learning objective: To identify the key features of a biography and understand how to sequence significant life events.

Read the short biography of Admiral Elara below. Use the information to answer the questions, ensuring you use full sentences and correct punctuation.

Admiral Elara (1842–1912) was a pioneering navigator who changed the way we map the stars. Born in a small coastal village, she spent her childhood watching the tides and sketching constellations in her notebook. In 1865, she joined the Royal Exploration Fleet, becoming the first woman to captain a ship across the treacherous Southern Straits. Elara was not only a sailor but a brilliant inventor; she created the 'Stellar Compass', a device that helped ships find their way even on the cloudiest nights. Her greatest achievement came in 1888 when she successfully charted the hidden reefs of the Azure Archipelago, saving countless sailors from shipwreck. Elara spent her final years teaching mathematics and astronomy to young explorers, ensuring her knowledge would inspire future generations. She left behind a legacy of bravery, curiosity, and a deep respect for the natural world.

Word bank: chronological · achievement · biography · contribution · legacy · perspective

1. In which order is this biography written, and why is this structure important for a reader? (2 marks)

2. Identify two significant achievements of Admiral Elara mentioned in the text. (2 marks)

3. Based on the text, what personality traits helped Elara succeed in her career? (2 marks)

4. Why do you think the author included the dates of Elara's birth and death at the beginning of the biography? (1 mark)

5. How did Elara choose to spend her final years, and what does this tell us about her character? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Admiral Elara standing on the deck of her ship, holding her Stellar Compass, with the night sky filled with constellations above her.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are interviewing Admiral Elara. Write three questions you would ask her about her journey across the Southern Straits.