

# 14-FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE



A long time ago, in England, there lived a woman called Florence Nightingale. She became very famous as a nurse. She did a lot to help sick people so that they get better.

Florence was born in a good family. She got her name from the city "Florence" in Italy, where she was born on May 12, 1820. Florence grew up in England. She was taught at home by her father. She learnt English, Italian, Latin, German, French languages and studied History and Philosophy.

Florence travelled to many countries with her sister and parents. She also wrote lots of notes to herself. One day she wrote, "Today God spoke to me, and called me to His service." She made up her mind to do something useful in life.

Florence wanted to help other people. She wanted to become a nurse. But her parents and her sister did not want her to become a

nurse. Her parents hoped to settle her comfortably by getting her married to a rich man.

In those days ladies from good families did not become nurses. They were paid very little money. They got little respect from anybody. The hospitals in those days were no better. Little attention was paid to cleanliness. The sheets on the beds were never changed, and nobody used to take care of the patients' hygiene. Florence did not mind all these. She secretly planned to become a nurse. She got her first chance when her grandmother fell ill.

Florence stayed at her side and looked after her. Gradually she began to help the poor people of a village nearby. Florence soon found that she could not do her work properly as she was not trained. So she began to read books about medicine. A few years later she got an opportunity to go to Germany and learn about nursing in a hospital. When she returned to England, she became the superintendent of the organization, 'Care of the Sick' in London. She began to train nurses and became quite famous.



In 1854, the Crimean War broke out. The Government sent Florence Nightingale to a place called Sentari in Turkey. She was made the incharge of a team of forty nurses. The hospital at Sentari was full of soldiers injured in the war. Florence worked very hard to improve the condition of the hospital. She cleaned up the hospital

and built a new kitchen, which served better food. With her own money, she bought new sheets and clothes for the patients. She spent many hours talking to them. She tried her best to make them comfortable and happy. At night she went from bed to bed carrying a lamp. This is how she got the name, **'The Lady with the Lamp'**.

Florence worked so hard that she became very ill. But she refused to return to England. In 1860 she started the Nightingale School for Nurses. Because of her efforts, nurses gained respect all over the country. Florence Nightingale died on August 13, 1910 in London. She was the one who brought significant changes in the field of nursing.

## **New Words/Phrases**

<i>Word</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
sheets	- /ʃi:ts/	शीट्स - चादर
properly	- /'pɔ:pəli/	प्रोपय़र(र)लि - सही प्रकार से
war broke out	- /wɔ:(r)ɔ:brʊk AUt/	वॉय़र ब्रेक आउट - लड़ाई छिड़ी
secretly	- /si:kə'tli/	सीक़र(र)लि - गुप्त से
comfortable	- /kɔ:mftəbl/	कमफ़(र)टबल - आरामदेय
superintendent	- /'su:pə'ɪn'tendənt/	सुपरिन्टेन्डन्ट - ज़मीनदार
organization	- /'ɔ:gə'nai'zəʃən/	ऑर्गनाइज़ेशन - संगठन

## **Comprehension Questions**

### **1. Answer the following questions:**

- How did Florence get her name ?
- What did Florence want to become ?
- Why didn't young ladies from good families become nurses in those days?

d. What did Florence do to improve the condition of the hospital at Sentari ?

e. Why is Florence Nightingale known as 'The Lady with the Lamp'?

**2. Write 'true' or 'false' for the given statements:**

a. Florence was born in a poor family. ( )

b. She wanted to become a nurse. ( )

c. She grew up in Italy. ( )

d. She worked very hard to improve the condition of the hospital. ( )

e. She became the superintendent of the organization, 'Care of the sick'.( )

**3. Study the table. Now write five sentences about Florence Nightingale's life. Write them in the order in which they happened:**

Florence	served the soldiers in the war	in	Italy.
	died		England.
	learnt about nursing		Turkey.
	was born		London.
	grew up		Germany.

**Word Power**

1. Column 'A' gives you the names of some countries. Write a word for the people belonging to each country in column 'B'. One has been done for you:

**'A'**

**'B'**

America

American

China

\_\_\_\_\_

England

\_\_\_\_\_

France

\_\_\_\_\_

Germany

\_\_\_\_\_

India

\_\_\_\_\_

### ***Language Practice***

***1. We join together words or sentences with 'and' or 'but' (conjunctions).***

*Example-* Ram and Shyam are two brothers. Ram is a tall, thin and clever boy but his brother Shyam is short, fat and dull.

***Now complete the following paragraph with 'and' or 'but' :***

Sunita \_\_\_ Sakshi both like to play. Sunita likes to go to school \_\_\_ Sakshi does not like school at all. Sunita keeps her room neat \_\_\_ tidy \_\_\_ Sakshi keeps her room dirty.

***2. Read and Understand-***

» We use '**somebody**' to refer to a person who is not known or we do not want to mention by name.

» We use '**nobody**' in positive sentences.

» We use '**anybody**' in negative sentences or questions.

**Now make sentences with somebody, nobody and anybody using the table below:**

There is	somebody	at the entrance.
	nobody	in the class.
There isn't	anybody	on the terrace.
		in the garden.
		near the door.

### **Let's Know More**

» Florence Nightingale is known as, '**The lady with the Lamp**'. Read aloud the names of some of the great people of our country and what they are popularly known as :

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel	: The Iron Man of India
Sarojini Naidu	: The Nightingale of India
Dadabhai Nauroji	: The Grand Old Man of India
Rabindra Nath Tagore	: Gurudev
Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru	: Chacha Nehru
Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam	: The Missile Man of India
Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi	: Bapu