






*Who Were They?*

	NAME	DID HE/SHE REALLY EXIST?
<b>Example:</b> <i>Who invented the traveler's check?</i>	M. F. Berry	Yes, he did.
1. Who was the son of a shoemaker who was famous for telling lies?		
2. Who came from Transylvania and enjoyed drinking blood?		
3. Who lived with the apes in Africa and had a girlfriend called Jane?		
4. Who heard voices which told her to help the French to fight against the English?		
5. Who walked across the Alps from France to Italy with 37 elephants?		
6. Who ran away from his cruel father and traveled down the Mississippi on a raft?		
7. Who experimented with teaching the deaf and transmitting speech?		
8. Who was the woman with a mysterious smile? A famous Italian artist painted her portrait.		
9. Who was the beautiful Queen of Egypt who died when a snake bit her?		
10. Who fell in love with a young man called Romeo and married him in secret in Verona?		
11. Who took money from the rich and gave it to the poor? He lived in Sherwood forest in England.		
12. Who crossed the Great Wall of China and conquered most of Asia?		
13. Who was the famous detective with a friend called Dr. Watson?		
14. Who invented Mickey Mouse?		
15. Who was called the "Wizard of Menlo Park" because of his many inventions?		
16. Who discovered radium and later died from the effects of experiments with X-rays?		
17. Who composed some of the world's greatest music—which he never heard?		
18. Who brought dead bodies back to life and created a monster?		

# Who Were They? Worksheet

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## ACTIVITY

Groupwork: reading, speaking

## AIM

To answer questions in a quiz about famous people from history and fiction.

## GRAMMAR AND FUNCTIONS

Past simple questions and short answers

## VOCABULARY

General

## PREPARATION

Make one copy of the worksheet for each group of three to five students.

## TIME

40 minutes

## PROCEDURE

1. Divide the class into teams of three to five students. Ask each team to think of a famous person from the past, without telling the rest of the class who it is.

They write a clue to this person's identity and a representative of each team reads it out. The other teams guess who the person was.

2. Explain to the class that they are going to answer questions in a quiz about famous people from history and fiction.
3. Give one copy of the worksheet to each team and point out the example at the top.
4. Each team appoints one person to read out the questions to the rest of the team and to write in the answers.
5. Tell the students that they have 20 minutes to read the questions and write in the answers they know.
6. After 20 minutes, or when the first team has finished the quiz, check the answers with the whole class. Teams get two points for each correct name and one point for knowing whether the person really existed or not. The team with the most points is the winner.

## FOLLOW-UP

Ask the students to stay in their groups and write similar questions about famous people from their own countries. Ask them to give the questions to another group, who answer and score points as before.

## ANSWERS

1. Pinocchio. No, he didn't exist. He was a wooden puppet in an Italian story by C. Collodi. Pinocchio wanted to be a real boy, but when he told a lie, his nose grew longer.
2. Count Dracula. No, he didn't exist. He was the vampire in a novel written in 1887 by Bram Stoker.
3. Tarzan (or Lord Greystoke). No, he didn't exist. He was a character from the novels by the American writer Edgar Rice Burroughs.
4. Joan of Arc. Yes, she did exist. She was born in 1412 and helped the French soldiers to beat the English. Later, the English captured her and burned her as a witch.
5. Hannibal. Yes, he did exist. Hannibal was a great African general who fought the Romans in 218 B.C.
6. Huckleberry Finn. No, he didn't exist. He was the hero in Mark Twain's most popular story, written in 1884.
7. Alexander Graham Bell. Yes, he did exist. He was a Scottish-American scientist, the inventor of the telephone.
8. Mona Lisa (La Gioconda). Yes, she did exist. She was married to Francesco di Bartolommeo del Gioconda, a rich businessman from Florence.
9. Cleopatra. Yes, she did exist. She lived from 50 to 30 B.C. and had love affairs with Julius Caesar and another Roman general, Mark Antony.
10. Juliet. No, she didn't exist. Romeo and Juliet were characters in one of Shakespeare's most famous plays.
11. Robin Hood. No, he didn't exist. The legend of Robin Hood started 800 years ago.
12. Genghis Khan. Yes, he did exist. At the age of thirteen he became king of the Mongols. He lived from 1162–1227.
13. Sherlock Holmes. No, he didn't exist. A Scottish writer, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, invented him.
14. Walt Disney. Yes, he did exist. In 1937 he showed his first long cartoon film, "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs". He needed over 100,000 separate drawings to make it.
15. Thomas Edison. Yes, he did exist. Although this American (1847–1931) had only three months of formal schooling, he created over 1,000 inventions, including the electric lamp.
16. Marie Curie. Yes, she did exist. She was a Polish physicist who married a French physicist. They won the 1903 Nobel prize for physics.
17. Ludwig van Beethoven. Yes, he did exist. By the time this German musician wrote his famous "Ode to Joy" in 1817, he was almost totally deaf.
18. Frankenstein. No, he didn't exist. It's only a story! Mary Shelley wrote it in England in 1818.