CLEOPATRA

1 Warm up

Look at these monuments of the ancient Mediterranean world. Match each monument with the people who built it.

- The Egyptians
- The Greeks
- The Romans

1) The Parthenon (447 BCE)

2) The Forum of Caesar (46 BCE)

3) The Pyramids (2550-2490 BCE)

2 Vocabulary

Group 1: Match the sentence halves.

1. After a terrible **battle**, many people
2. The king took **control** of the country
3. Scientists need a lot of **intelligence**
4. **Leadership** is important in business
5. People want their country's **rulers** to be honest;
6. National and international **political** events

a. and ordered everyone to work for him.
b. are usually the main stories on the TV news.
c. if you want other people to follow your ideas.
d. they won't support a president or prime minister who tells lies.
e. to understand difficult problems.
f. were dead, and the town was on fire.

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Group 2: Read this text and try to understand the words in bold. Then match them with the meanings.

> Lots of people know Shakespeare's **romantic drama** about two famous **lovers**, Romeo and Juliet. Romeo fell in love with Juliet's **beauty**, but they only had a short **relationship**. At the end of the story, they both died and were **buried**.

1. the quality of having an attractive face or body, which people like to look at _____
2. put into the ground after death _____
3. a story with lots of surprises and action _____
4. two people who are in love, but may not be married to each other _____
5. the way two people are connected _____
6. related to love _____

3 Listening 1

You are going to listen to information about Cleopatra (69-30 BCE). Read these sentences and predict which option is correct. Then listen to check your ideas.

1. At first, Cleopatra ruled Egypt **alone / with her father / with her brother**.
2. When Cleopatra's brother Ptolemy killed Caesar's enemy Pompey, Caesar was **pleased / angry / sad.**
3. Cleopatra's family spoke **Greek / Egyptian / both Egyptian and Greek**.
4. After Caesar was killed, Mark Antony **married Cleopatra / became the ruler of Rome / fought with Caesar's son**.
5. After Cleopatra died, **her children / the Romans / Mark Antony** ruled Egypt.

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Narrator: Cleopatra was one of the most famous female **rulers** in history and her life story is full of **drama** and excitement. Cleopatra was born in 69 BCE. Her father was the pharaoh of Egypt, part of a long line of Greek-speaking rulers of the country.

Narrator: He died when she was 18, and she and her younger brother Ptolemy ruled the country together for a while, before he sent her away. At this time in Rome, two men, Julius Caesar and Pompey, were fighting for control.

Narrator: Pompey ran away to Egypt and Caesar followed him. When Ptolemy killed Pompey, Caesar became angry. He worked with Cleopatra to take **control** of Egypt and kill Ptolemy. Cleopatra became the pharaoh and Caesar's **lover**.

Narrator: In 47 BCE, their son Caesarion was born. Cleopatra brought peace to Egypt. During this time, she learned to speak Egyptian; surprisingly, before this time, her family only spoke Greek.

Narrator: This helped her to understand her people and rule the country well. However, in 44 BCE, Caesar was killed. This resulted in a new fight for control of Rome.

Narrator: This time, Caesar's son Octavian was fighting against Mark Antony. Mark Antony began a **political** and **romantic relationship** with Cleopatra. They had three children together.

Narrator: In 31 BCE, Cleopatra and Mark Antony fought Octavian in a big sea **battle** off the coast of Greece. Octavian won and Cleopatra and Mark Antony returned to Egypt. Octavian followed them to the city of Alexandria.

Narrator: Mark Antony and Cleopatra both killed themselves. The famous story is that Cleopatra made a snake bite her. They are **buried** together in an unknown place. After Cleopatra died, Egypt became part of the Roman Empire.

Narrator: There are many stories, plays and films about Cleopatra. She was famous for her **beauty**, but also for her **political intelligence** and **leadership**.

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4 Listening 2

Read the questions. Can you remember the answers? Listen again to check.

1. How did Julius Caesar help Cleopatra?
2. What was Egypt like when Cleopatra was in control?
3. How many children did Cleopatra have?
4. What happened to Mark Antony and Cleopatra after they lost the battle with Octavian?
5. How do we remember Cleopatra today?

5 Vocabulary review and story summary

Match the beginning and end of these phrases/collocations from Cleopatra's story.

Group 1

1. a famous	a. control
2. full of	b. drama
3. to take	c. female ruler
4. became Caesar's	d. lover
5. began a	e. romantic relationship

Group 2

1. a big sea	a. and leadership
2. buried	b. battle
3. famous for	c. her beauty
4. political intelligence	d. together

Use these phrases to make sentences about Cleopatra's life story.

6 Talking point

In pairs, answer these questions.

1. Which part of Cleopatra's life do you think had the most drama? Why?
2. What would you ask Cleopatra if you could meet her?
3. Would you like to have lived in Egypt during this time? Why/not?
4. What can we learn from studying the Egyptians, Greeks, Romans, and other ancient people?
5. Can you think of any other famous female leaders? In what ways were they similar to Cleopatra?

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7 Optional extension

Read the information about the word *control* and then complete the gap-fill using the correct form of the words in the table.

- At this time in Rome, two men, Julius Caesar and Pompey, were fighting for **control**.
- He worked with Cleopatra to take **control** of Egypt and kill Ptolemy.

1. After Cleopatra died, the Egyptians _____ **control** of the country and became part of the Roman Empire.
2. I can see that you're really angry, but you have to **control** _____ - there's nothing we can do about it right now.
3. That dog is _____ of **control**! The owner should be more careful, or someone will get hurt.
4. The new CEO is going to make some big changes when she **controls** the _____ !
5. This switch **controls** the _____ of the room, so if you're too hot, you should turn it off.
6. When the teacher is _____ **control** of the class, the students learn more.

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