

# Cleopatra

## Queen of Egypt



### What Was Cleopatra Like As a Leader?

Cleopatra was an intelligent and successful leader. She spoke lots of different languages. One of these languages was ancient Egyptian.

Cleopatra is thought to have offered stored grain to people in the city during a bad **drought**. This meant that everyone had something to eat and nobody went hungry.



### Glossary

**drought:** A long time without rainfall that leads to a shortage in water.

Cleopatra VII was the last ruler of ancient Egypt. She ruled for around 21 years in the city of Alexandria.

### Who Was Cleopatra?

Cleopatra was thought to have been born around 69 BC. She took over as the ruler of Egypt when her father died. Women were not allowed to rule on their own at the time. Therefore, Cleopatra's younger brother called Ptolemy XIII ruled alongside her.



### Did You Know...?

Cleopatra was born in Egypt but her family were originally from Greece.



### Cleopatra and Julius Caesar

Ptolemy XIII decided that he no longer wanted to rule with his sister so he had her thrown out of Alexandria. He had also managed to anger a Roman general named Julius Caesar at the same time. Caesar travelled to Alexandria and demanded to speak to Ptolemy XIII.

Cleopatra heard what had happened and wanted to speak to Caesar before her brother could. She wrapped herself in a carpet and had herself sent to Caesar. He was impressed and offered to help her to challenge her brother. This was successful and Cleopatra became the ruler of Egypt again.

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