

# Frida Kahlo's life

1.- Fill in the gaps in Frida Kahlo's biography with the simple past of the verbs in brackets.

Frida Kahlo 1 \_\_\_\_\_ (be) a Mexican painter. She  
2 \_\_\_\_\_ (be) born near Mexico City in 1907. She  
3 \_\_\_\_\_ (have) three sisters.

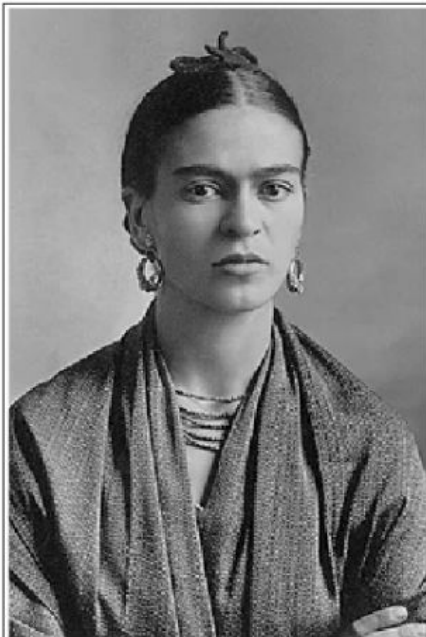
She 4 \_\_\_\_\_ (suffer) from polio when she  
5 \_\_\_\_\_ (be) a child and she 6 \_\_\_\_\_ (not can)  
go to school for some time. Her father 7 \_\_\_\_\_  
(teach) her photography.

They 8 \_\_\_\_\_ (admit) her to the National  
Preparatory School, where there 9 \_\_\_\_\_ (be) only  
35 girls out of 2,000 students. She 10 \_\_\_\_\_ (want)  
to become a doctor.



Photograph by Guillermo Kahlo (October 26, 1871 -  
April 14, 1941) -

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=21961183>



Photograph by Guillermo Kahlo -  
Sotheby's, Public Domain,  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=32639240>

One day, in 1925, she 11 \_\_\_\_\_ (have) a  
terrible accident on a bus which 12 \_\_\_\_\_  
(break) her pelvis, leg, foot, and 13 \_\_\_\_\_  
(cause) her several other injuries.

She 14 \_\_\_\_\_ (spend) one month in hospital,  
two months at home, then almost three months in  
bed after they 15 \_\_\_\_\_ (discover) that three  
vertebrae 16 \_\_\_\_\_ (be) displaced.

The accident 17 \_\_\_\_\_ (end) Kahlo's dreams  
of becoming a physician and 18 \_\_\_\_\_  
(cause) her pain and serious health problems for  
the rest of her life. She 19 \_\_\_\_\_ (be) only  
eighteen years old.

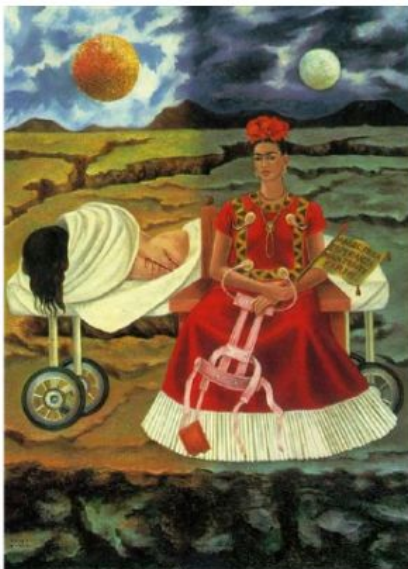


Self-Portrait with Thorn Necklace and Hummingbird, by Frida Kahlo - Lloyd, Brigitte Gastel. "Portrait of the Artists"; artroots.com, fair use, <https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?curid=3518151>

She 20 \_\_\_\_\_ (marry) another artist, Diego Rivera, and two years later they 21 \_\_\_\_\_ (move) to San Francisco. They also 22 \_\_\_\_\_ (live) in Detroit, but she 23 \_\_\_\_\_ (feel) homesick, so they 24 \_\_\_\_\_ (return) to Mexico.

After they 25 \_\_\_\_\_ (get) divorced she 26 \_\_\_\_\_ (start) painting self-portraits. Later, she 27 \_\_\_\_\_ (re-marry) Diego Rivera and 28 \_\_\_\_\_ (sell) her first paintings. After an exhibition in Paris, the Louvre museum 29 \_\_\_\_\_ (buy) one of her paintings.

She 30 \_\_\_\_\_ (die) in 1954, at the age of 47.



Tree of Hope, Árbol de la Esperanza, by Frida Kahlo, C0550: [www.fridakahlofans.com](http://www.fridakahlofans.com)



The Wounded Deer, by Frida Kahlo - <http://totallyhistory.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/the-wounded-deer-1946.jpg>

## 2.- Complete the questions about Frida Kahlo's biography with the simple past of the verbs in brackets. Then answer the questions, writing complete sentences.

a) When \_\_\_\_\_ Frida Kahlo \_\_\_\_\_? (be born)

\_\_\_\_\_

b) How many sisters \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_? (have)

\_\_\_\_\_



c) Where \_\_\_\_\_ after she recovered from polio? (study)

\_\_\_\_\_

d) What \_\_\_\_\_ to Frida in 1925? (happen)

\_\_\_\_\_

e) How long \_\_\_\_\_ in hospital? (stay)

\_\_\_\_\_

f) How old \_\_\_\_\_ at the time? (be)

\_\_\_\_\_

g) When \_\_\_\_\_ ? (die)

\_\_\_\_\_

**3.- Draw lines to match these quotes by Frida Kahlo with their meaning:**

*"Feet, what do I need them for if I have wings to fly?"*



☐ I will be happy when I die.

*"I paint flowers so they will not die."*



☐ We are stronger than we think.

*"I drank to drown my sorrows, but the damned things learned how to swim."*



☐ Beautiful paintings preserve beauty for ever.

*"Don't lock yourself up with your own suffering, or it may devour you from the inside."*



☐ Human beings can do what they want, but they are not doing what they should.

*"We can endure much more than we think we can."*



☐ What appears in my paintings is my real life, which is terrible.

*"I hope the exit is joyful and I hope never to return."*



☐ An artist can use his / her imagination to escape from a hard reality.

*"I don't paint dreams or nightmares, I paint my own reality."*



☐ Alcohol didn't make take away my unhappiness.

*"Mankind owns its destiny, and its destiny is the earth. We are destroying it until we have no destiny."*



☐ You have to share your life with other people, even if you are not happy.