

1 Read the text and mark the sentences *T* (true) or *F* (false). Correct the false statements. ...

- 1 Merlin was a very good magician. T F ...
- 2 Powerful men trusted Merlin's advice. T F ...
- 3 The magician was born in a place called "Emrys". T F ...
- 4 Merlin was always tired because of his magic. T F ...
- 5 The Lady of the Lake became a better magician than Merlin. T F ...
- 6 The Lady of the Lake locked Merlin in a tower by the lake. T F ...

Merlin the Magician



Merlin was a very popular character in the early 10th century. He was a magician with great powers. Many kings of England relied on him. King Arthur learnt a lot from Merlin as a child. Later, he became king because of his help.

When Merlin was born, his parents called him "Emrys".

Later, he changed it to Merlin which is Latin for "Myrddin", the place he came from. When he became older, people often described him as a tired old man but he was, in fact, very energetic. His magical skills turned him into a legend.

Merlin's big mistake came when he fell in love with the Lady of the Lake. He taught her all his mystical powers. She became very powerful. With her own magic spells, she locked Merlin away in a glass tower.

2 Underline the correct word. ...

- 1 King Arthur was able to **pull** / **attack** the sword from the stone. ...
- 2 With Merlin's help, King Arthur became very **surprised** / **powerful**. ...
- 3 King Arthur removed the sword because he had a pure **heart** / **magician**. ...
- 4 King Arthur lived in Camelot while he **built** / **ruled** England. ...
- 5 In Arthurian times, England was a strong **country** / **people**. ...

3 a) Write the *past simple* forms of the verbs.

1 attack

2 explain

3 win

4 promise

5 meet

6 break

3 b) Use the verbs to complete the sentences.

- met
- won
- broke
- promised
- attacked
- explained

1 I Lisa's brother today.

2 He everything to me.

3 A dog her on her way to work.

4 She to help me with my homework.

5 I'm sorry. I the vase.

6 Doris Lessing a Nobel Prize in 2007.