

## **CLEOPATRA, THE LAST PHARAOH**

Cleopatra, Queen of Egypt, was one of the most famous women in history. Her full name was Cleopatra VII Thea Philopator (69 BC – 12 August 30 BC). She was the last pharaoh of Egypt. She spoke seven languages.

Cleopatra was born in Alexandria, then the capital of Egypt. When she was 18 years old, her father, who was king, died. She and her brother, Ptolemy XIII, became the leaders of Egypt. She was queen and her brother was king. Her brother was only 12 years old, so she was the real leader.

Cleopatra made some enemies. Pothinus was her enemy. He and his friends removed Cleopatra from power and made Ptolemy the only king. He was the king but because he was still a boy, Pothinus and his friends were the real leaders of Egypt.

In 48 BC Julius Caesar arrived in Egypt. She convinced him to help her win back the throne. Caesar defeated Ptolemy's army and he drowned (ito zen – se ahogó) in the Nile River while trying to escape. Cleopatra then took back power. Cleopatra and Caesar fell in love and they had a child named Caesarion. In 44BC Julius Caesar was assassinated.

In 41 BC, Cleopatra and Marc Antony met and fell in love. They had three children. They formed a military alliance against Octavian. They were defeated (fueron derrotados) and she went back to Egypt.

There are several theories about Cleopatra's death. One theory says that Cleopatra killed herself (bere buruaz beste egin zuen) by making an Egyptian cobra to bite her. Another theory says that she was poisoned. She dies when she was only 39.

### **EXERCISE 1: ANALYZING THE TEXT**

- 1- Which type of text is this? (a poem, a comic, a letter, a biography, an expository text ...) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2- Which is the main topic of the text? *Zein da testuaren ideia garrantzitsuena?* Try to express yourself in English but if you can't, you can write in Basque or Spanish. Saiatu ingelesez idazten, ezin baduzu euskera edo gaztelania erabili.  
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3- Taking into account that Cleopatra was born in the year 69 BC (Before Christ, Antes de Cristo). How many years ago was she born? Do the Maths.

*Kontuan hartuta K.A. 69. urtean jaio zela, orain dela zenbat urte jaio zen?  
Kalkulua egin.*

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4- Why do you think she was the Queen and her brother the King? Did they need both? *Zergatik uste duzu bera nahiz eta erregina izan, bere neba erregea zela?  
Bi egotea beharrezkoa al zen?* \_\_\_\_\_

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5- The text is written in past. Find 5 regular verbs and 5 irregular verbs. *Bilatu bakoitzetik 5 aditz.*

| REGULAR VERBS | IRREGULAR VERBS |
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#### EXERCISE 2: ANSWER THE QUESTIONS / LONG ANSWERS

1. How old was Cleopatra when she became the Queen?

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2. Who was her first big enemy?

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3. How many times did she fall in love? *Zenbat aldiz maitemindu zen?*

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4. How many children did she have?

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5. How did she die? *Nola hil zen?*

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