

READING AND WRITING

a Look at 3 self-portraits of famous people. Do you think the self-portraits look like the people in the photos?

b Read the 3 biographies and number the events in the correct order from 1 to 3.

Kurt Vonnegut was an American writer. He was born in 1922 in Indianapolis. He was a soldier during World War II, and was in a prison camp in Germany from 1944 to 1945. His first novel was *Piano Player*, published in 1952, but it wasn't a success. However, his novel *Slaughterhouse-Five*, an anti-war book, was a best-seller, and was made into a film in 1972. In later life, he was interested in politics and painting. His art was an escape from the 'work' of writing.

Slaughterhouse-Five was a best-seller

He was a soldier

He was a painter



Billy Dee Williams is an American actor. He was born in New York in 1937. His father was a caretaker and his mother was a lift operator. He was a student at the High School of Music and Art. He was a theatre actor for 15 years and, in 1959, he was in his first film. He was very successful in the 1980s, when he was in two Star Wars films, *The Empire Strikes Back* and *Return of the Jedi*. Before he was an actor, Williams was a fine arts academy in New York, and this self-portrait is in the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C.

He was in his first film

He was very successful as an actor

He was an art student



Adele is a British singer and songwriter. She was born Adele Laurie Blue Adkins in London in 1988. When she was a child she was much more interested in music than in schoolwork. When she was 14, her musical tastes were very different from most teenagers —she was a big fan of Billie Holiday and Eminem. She was a performing arts student at the BRIT School in London, where she was a classmate of singers Leona Lewis and Jessie J. Her first album, *19*, in 2008, was an immediate success and she is now a major star. Adele isn't a painter, this self-portrait was for an online art project called Face Britain.

She wasn't very interested in schoolwork

19 was a bestseller

She was a student with singer Jessie J



c Now you WRITE the biography of a famous person that you admire.