## Marie Curie (1867 - 1934)

## Fill in the gaps with the right word

1. deteriorate 2. continuing 3. physicist 4. investigating 5. surgery 6. was awarded
7. courses 8. opposition 9. was knocked 10. were married 11. was born

*Marie Curie was a Polish-born , and chemist and one of the most famous scientists of her time. Together with her husband Pierre, she ' the Nobel Prize in 1903, and she went on to win another in 1911.*

Marie Curie ©

Marie Sklodowska in Warsaw on 7 November 1867, the daughter of a teacher. In 1891, she went to Paris to study physics and mathematics at the Sorbonne where she met Pierre Curie, professor of the School of Physics. They in 1895.

The Curies worked together radioactivity, building on the work of the German physicist Roentgen and the French physicist Becquerel. In July 1898, the Curies announced the discovery of a new chemical element, polonium. At the end of the year, they announced the discovery of another, radium. The Curies, along with Becquerel, were awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1903.

Pierre's life was cut short in 1906 when he down and killed by a carriage. Marie took over his teaching post, becoming the first woman to teach at the Sorbonne, and devoted herself to the work that they had begun together. She received a second Nobel Prize, for Chemistry, in 1911.

The Curie's research was crucial in the development of x-rays in . During World War One Curie helped to equip ambulances with x-ray equipment, which she herself drove to the front lines. The International Red Cross made her head of its radiological service and she held training for medical orderlies and doctors in the new techniques.

Despite her success, Marie continued to face great from male scientists in France, and she never received significant financial benefits from her work. By the late 1920s her health was beginning to . She died on 4 July 1934 from leukaemia, caused by exposure to high-energy radiation from her research. The Curies' eldest daughter Irene was herself a scientist and winner of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry.

**Source of the original text: BBC Historic Figures**