Grammar Ex. > Simple Past - Famous Celebrities

A. Match the picture, name, and occupation of each character correctly.

Picture	Name	Occupation
	Stephen Hawking (1942-2018)	Chemist, engineer, and inventor
	Frida Kahlo (1907-1954)	Model and film star
	Nelson Mandela (1918-2013)	Physicist and chemist
	Audrey Hepburn (1929-1993)	Theoretical physicist and cosmologist
	Jacques Cousteau (1910-1997)	Surrealist painter and printmaker
	Marie Curie (1867-1934)	Surrealist artist
	Alfred Nobel (1833-1896)	Revolutionary and statesman
	Salvador Dalí (1904-1989)	Explorer, scientist, and researcher

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B. Read some facts of four world celebrities. Write the correct past form of the verbs below.

1. Audrey Hepburn _____ (be born) in Brussels, Belgium. Her father _____ (be) an English banker and her mother _____ (belong) to the Dutch royalty. After difficult times in Holland during the World War II, Audrey _____ (go) to a ballet school in London and later _____ (become) a model. A film producer _____ (spot) her and she _____ (begin) to act in films. Audrey is recognized as one of the three greatest female legends from the Golden Age of Hollywood.

2. Jacques Cousteau _____ (graduate) from the France's naval academy in 1933. However, his plans to become a navy pilot _____ (stop) because he _____ (have) an almost fatal automobile accident. He _____ (break) his two arms in the accident. However, his love for the ocean and underwater diving _____ (not break) and he _____ (sail) the world for much of the late 20th century, educating millions about the Earth's oceans and its inhabitants.

3. Salvador Dalí's childhood _____ (start) in Figueres, a small town outside Barcelona. His parents _____ (support) his interest in art with drawing lessons. When he _____ (be) 16, he _____ (lose) his mother to breast cancer, the greatest blow he _____ (experience) in his life. In his youth and adulthood Salvador _____ (face) several problems with his family, friends, teachers, colleagues, and the Spanish government. In fact, his work _____ (use) his dreams and unconscious thoughts to create a reality.

4. Marie Curie _____ (receive) a general education at his hometown, in Warsaw, Poland. Because of the Russian regime, she _____ (leave) Warsaw to study in Paris where she _____ (obtain) her degrees in Physics and the Mathematical Sciences. She _____ (win) twice a Nobel prize for her work in radiation and radioactivity. In fact, her work _____ (focus) on the developing of methods for the separation of radium to study its therapeutical properties.

5. Stephen W. Hawking _____ (be) a brilliant English theoretical physicist whose theory of exploding black holes _____ (draw) upon both relativity theory and quantum mechanics. Hawking _____ (study) physics at University College, Oxford, and Trinity Hall. In the early 1960s Hawking _____ (contract) amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, an incurable degenerative neuromuscular disease. He _____ (continue) to work despite the disease's progressively disabling effects. Hawking's contributions to physics _____ (earn) him many exceptional honours. He _____ (die) on March 14, 2018.

Did you know who these celebrities _____ (be)? I hope you have learned a bit about their valuable work in history.

Level A2

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