

PROJECT: THE STORY OF OUR SCHOOL

Class 2: Reading Comprehension

Juan Bautista Alberdi's Biography

Adapted from <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Juan-Bautista-Alberdi>

1. Read the biography below and write the verbs in brackets in the past simple.

Juan Bautista Alberdi was born on August 29, 1810, in San Miguel de Tucumán. He **(be)** an Argentine political thinker whose writings influenced the assembly that drew up the Constitution of 1853.

Alberdi was one of the best-known members of the "Generation of '37," an intellectual movement of university students who debated politics, social theories, and philosophy. While he was living in Uruguay, he **(study)** law and then he **(live)** for some time in Chile and in Europe.

In 1852, he **(write)** a book called Bases y puntos de partida para la organización política de la República Argentina ("Bases and Starting Points for the Political Organization of the Argentine Republic"), which was the decisive influence on the Argentine constitution of 1853.

His book **(emphasize)** the need for a federal government and argued for attracting foreign capital and immigrants; his approach was encapsulated by his dictum "Gobernar es poblar" ("To govern is to populate").

When Argentina was fighting the Paraguayan war (1864-70), he **(speak)** against it.

This **(make)** him unpopular with some government members, so he **(have)**

to leave Argentina and lived in semi-exile in Europe.

He **(die)** in Paris on 19th June, 1884.



2. Read J. B. Alberdi's biography again and place the events on the timeline.

The Paraguayan War ended. He published "Bases y puntos..." He died.
He was born. The Paraguayan War started. Argentina had its first Constitution.

