

8. C. 15 centuries

The Silk Road operated for over 15 centuries.

9. B. Deserts and mountains

Travelers faced challenges of deserts and mountains on the Silk Road.

10. D. Spaghetti

**Spaghetti in Italy might have been influenced by Chinese noodles*

Grade 7

Reading biography Biography of Marie Curie

Marie Curie, born on November 7, 1867, in Warsaw, Poland, was one of the most brilliant scientists the world has ever known. Her life story is a testimony to her dedication, passion, and unwavering commitment to discovery and understanding.

Born Maria Sklodowska, Marie was the youngest of five children in the family. From an early age, she showed a keen interest in science and mathematics, often impressing her teachers with her intelligence. However, her early life was filled with struggles. Poland was under Russian rule at that time, and women were not allowed to attend university. But Marie was determined. She moved to Paris and joined the Sorbonne University under the name 'Marie', where she studied physics and mathematics.

It was in Paris where she met Pierre Curie, a talented physicist. The two quickly fell in love and got married in 1895. Together, they embarked on a journey of discovery that would change the world of science forever.

In 1898, Marie and Pierre announced their discovery of two new elements - polonium, named after Marie's homeland Poland, and radium, which glowed in the dark. The couple's research on these radioactive elements laid the foundation for many modern-day applications, including cancer treatments.

For her exceptional contributions to science, Marie Curie received not one, but two Nobel Prizes. She became the first woman to ever win a Nobel Prize and remains the only person to win Nobel Prizes in two different scientific fields: Physics (in 1903) and Chemistry (in 1911).

Tragically, Pierre Curie passed away in a street accident in 1906. Despite her grief, Marie continued her work with unmatched zeal. She took over Pierre's teaching position at the Sorbonne, becoming the institution's first female professor.

However, prolonged exposure to radiation took a toll on Marie's health, leading to her death on July 4, 1934. Her legacy, though, lives on. Marie Curie's discoveries have paved the way for numerous scientific and medical advancements. She remains an inspiration for countless individuals, especially young girls, motivating them to break barriers and achieve their dreams.

Multiple Choice Questions:

1. Where was Marie Curie born?

- a) Paris, France
- b) London, England
- c) Warsaw, Poland
- d) Berlin, Germany

2. What did Marie Curie change her name from?

- a) Maria Curie
- b) Maria Sklodowska
- c) Maria Sorbonne
- d) Maria Pierre Sklodowska.

3. Who did Marie Curie marry?

- a) A mathematician
- b) A chemist
- c) A biologist
- d) A physicist

4. How many Nobel Prizes did Marie Curie win?

- a) One
- b) Two
- c) Three
- d) Four

5. Which element did Marie Curie name after her homeland?

- a) Radium
- b) Polonium
- c) Curium
- d) Thorium

6. What was the cause of Pierre Curie's death?

- a) Radiation exposure
- b) Natural causes
- c) Street accident
- d) Illness

7. Where did Marie Curie study in Paris?

- a) Paris University
- b) Eiffel Tower Institute
- c) Sorbonne University
- d) Louvre College

8. Which of these elements discovered by the Curies glowed in the dark?

- a) Polonium
- b) Radium
- c) Neon
- d) Argon

9. What did Marie Curie primarily research?

- a) Gravitation
- b) Radioactive elements
- c) Plant biology
- d) Sound waves

10. Who became the first female professor at Sorbonne University?

- a) A famous mathematician
- b) Marie Curie's sister
- c) Marie Curie
- d) A renowned chemist

Answers and Explanations:

1. C. Warsaw, Poland

The passage states that Marie Curie was born in Warsaw, Poland.

2. B. Maria Sklodowska

The passage mentions she was born as Maria

3. D. A physicist

Marie Curie married Pierre Curie, a talented physicist

4. B. Two

Marie Curie received two Nobel Prizes, in Physics and Chemistry.

5. B. Polonium

The passage says Marie named polonium after Poland.

6. C. Street accident

Pierre Curie passed away in a street accident.

7. C. Sorbonne University

Marie Curie joined the Sorbonne University in Paris.

8. B. Radium

The passage states that radium glowed in the dark.

9. B. Radioactive elements

Marie and Pierre Curie's research centered around radioactive elements.

10. C. Marie Curie

The passage mentions that after Pierre's death, Marie became the first female professor at the Sorbonne.