



Julius Caesar



Birth and Childhood:

Julius Caesar was born in Rome in the year 100 BC. He was born to an aristocratic family that could trace their bloodlines back to the founding of Rome. His parents were well-off, but they were not rich by Roman standards.

Education:

At around the age of six, he began his education. He was taught by a private tutor named Marcus Antonius Gniphio and learned how to read and write. He also learned about Roman law and how to speak in public.

Early Career:

Unfortunately, the current dictator of Rome (Sulla) was enemies with both Caesar's uncle Marius and Caesar's father-in-law Cinna so young Caesar joined the army and left Rome in order to avoid Sulla and his allies. When Sulla died, Caesar returned to Rome. He was now a military hero from his years in the army. He quickly rose up the ranks in the Roman government. Caesar was an excellent speaker and the people of Rome loved him.

Later Career:

At the age of 40, Julius Caesar was elected to consul. Consul was the highest ranking position in the Roman Republic. Many of the leaders were jealous of Caesar and his following. Even his ally Pompey became jealous and soon Caesar and Pompey became rivals. Caesar took control of Rome in 49 BC and spent the next 18 months fighting Pompey. He finally defeated Pompey, chasing him all the way to Egypt. Caesar was now the most powerful man in the world. The Senate made him dictator for life and he ruled like a king. He made many changes to Rome: he put his own supporters in the Senate; he built new buildings and temples in the city of Rome and he even changed the calendar to the Julian calendar with 365 days and a leap year.

Death:

Some people in Rome felt that Caesar was too powerful. They plotted to kill him. The leaders of the plot were Cassius and Brutus. On March 15, 44 BC Caesar entered the Senate. A number of men began to attack him, resulting in his death. He was stabbed 23 times.

Purpose: To give the reader information about someone else's life.

Key features



Structural:

- Introduction to summarise who the biography is about
- Key events of their life in order
- Paragraphs with subheadings
- Conclusion to explain how they died or to explain what they are doing now

Language:

- Past tense: *Caesar was elected*
- Third person: *he began his education*
- Proper nouns: Rome
- Adverbials of time: *At the age of 40*



Writer's toolbox

Adverbials of time:

- As a child... During his formative years...
- Soon after... Early in his career...
- At the age of... In later life...

Formal language:

Avoid contractions: would not instead of wouldn't
Use standard English: 'Caesar was an excellent speaker' rather than 'he spoke good'

Punctuation:

- Remember to use a comma following an adverbial of time
- Try and use brackets for parenthesis

Vocabulary:

- Education Tutor
- Influential Inspirational
- Powerful Rivals

Recommended reads

