

Mary Seacole

1 In Jamaica

Mary Seacole was a Jamaican nurse who lived 200 years ago. When she was a young woman, she set up a hospital in Jamaica to care for sick and wounded British soldiers.



7 In Crimea

In 1854, Mary heard that there was a war in Crimea. Britain, France and Turkey were fighting against Russia.

Many of her soldier friends went to

fight there. Mary went too, so she could help to care for them.

- 13 Life was hard for the soldiers. It was cold and there was snow on the ground, but they had to live in tents. Everything was dirty – even the drinking water. Conditions were so bad that more soldiers died of cold and illness than in battle. At the beginning of the war, most of the hospitals were dirty and overcrowded, so it was difficult for soldiers to get better.

18 Florence Nightingale

A nurse called Florence Nightingale was sent to Crimea by the British government to look after their soldiers. She made changes to the nearest hospital so that at least it was clean and each soldier had his own bed. However, her hospital was in Turkey, so soldiers had to travel a long way by boat to get there.

24 The British Hotel

Mary Seacole set up the British Hotel, close to the battlefield in Crimea, so that she could care for soldiers who were sick and injured. It was only a small wooden building, but inside it was warm and clean, and soldiers could buy hot meals and supplies. She wasn't paid by the government, so the soldiers had to pay for their own care. Mary prepared medicines for the sick and treated the wounds of the injured. She was kind to the soldiers and they called her 'Mother Seacole'. Since Mary Seacole was able to help soldiers close to the battlefield, they received treatment much faster than those who had to travel by boat and cart to hospital.

34 After the War

After the Crimean War, Mary Seacole moved to live in Britain. She didn't have much money, but some of the soldiers she had cared for during the war tried to help her. They even held a big concert and gave her the money they raised from it.

Name:	Class:	Date:
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1 Look at the first paragraph.

Find and copy one word that means the same as *injured*.

2a

1 mark

2 Look at the paragraph beginning “*In 1854 ...*”.

List four countries that were fighting in the Crimean War.

2b

1 mark

3 “*Conditions were so bad ...*”

Which word is “*conditions*” closest in meaning to?

Tick one.

illnesses preparation requirements environment

2a

1 mark

4 Write one way in which Florence Nightingale improved the hospital in Crimea.

2b

1 mark

5 Why do you think soldiers did *not* have to pay for the care at Florence Nightingale’s hospital?

2d

1 mark

6 Why do you think Mary Seacole set up the British Hotel close to the battlefield?

2d

1 mark

7 The soldiers called her ‘Mother Seacole’.

Find and copy evidence to explain why they did this.

2d

1 mark

8 Put one tick in each row to show whether each statement about Mary Seacole is **true** or **false**.

	True	False
She went to Crimea to help look after British soldiers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
She worked in the same hospital as Florence Nightingale.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
She was paid by the British government.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
She made medicines for the soldiers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2b

2 marks

9 Number the events to show the order that Mary Seacole did them.

She set up the British Hotel.

She set up a hospital in Jamaica.

She went to live in England.

She travelled to Crimea.

2c

1 mark