

BIOGRAPHY WORKSHEET

What it is · Features of a good biography · Sample · Practice

Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

1. What is a Biography?

A **biography** is the true story of a person's life, written by **someone else**. It tells the reader who the person was, what they did, and why they are important.

Remember: A biography is written by another person. An **autobiography** is written by the person about their own life, using *I* and *my*.

2. Features of a Good Biography

Feature	What it means
True facts	Everything is real and can be checked. Nothing is made up.
Third person	Uses <i>he</i> , <i>she</i> , <i>they</i> and the person's name, not <i>I</i> .
Time order	Events are told in the order they happened (chronological order), from birth to later life.
Past tense	Uses words like <i>was born</i> , <i>moved</i> , <i>studied</i> , <i>won</i> for events that have finished.
Dates and places	Says when and where important things happened.
Key details	Includes family, education, challenges and achievements.
Clear structure	An introduction (who?), a body (life events) and a conclusion (why they matter).
Why important	Shows what we can learn from the person's life.

3. Sample Biography

Read the biography below. The labels on the left show its structure.

Introduction	Malala Yousafzai is a brave young woman from Pakistan who stands up for the right of every girl to go to school.
Early life	She was born on 12 July 1997 in Mingora, a town in the Swat Valley. Her father, Ziauddin Yousafzai, ran a school, and Malala grew up loving books and learning.
Challenges	As a schoolgirl, she spoke out about girls' education. In October 2012, she was attacked on her school bus because of her beliefs. She was taken to a hospital in Birmingham, England, where she recovered.
Achievements	In 2014, she won the Nobel Peace Prize at the age of 17, the youngest winner ever. She also helped start the Malala Fund, which works to help girls go to school.
Conclusion	Malala shows us that one voice, even a young one, can change the world.

4. Practice Activities

A. Fill in the blanks

Word bank: third person · past tense · true · chronological · autobiography

1. A biography tells the _____ story of a person's life.
2. A biography is written in the _____ (he, she, they).
3. Events are told in _____ order, from birth onwards.
4. Words like *was born* and *won* are in the _____.
5. When a person writes about their own life, it is called an _____.

B. True or False? (Circle one)

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1. A biography can include made-up events. | True / False |
| 2. A good biography includes dates and places. | True / False |
| 3. A biography is usually written using <i>I</i> and <i>my</i> . | True / False |
| 4. A biography should show why the person is important. | True / False |

C. Answer the questions about the sample biography

1. When and where was Malala born?

2. What did Malala's father do?

3. What did she win in 2014?

4. Why is Malala an important person? Write in a full sentence.

D. Plan your own biography

Choose a real person you admire (a family member, a teacher or a famous person) and fill in the planner.

Name	
Born (date and place)	
Family and childhood	
School / early life	
A challenge they faced	
Their achievements	
Why they are important	

E. Write your biography paragraph

Use your planner. Write in the third person and in the past tense. Start with an introduction and end with a conclusion.

5. Short Biography: Abdul Sattar Edhi

Born: 28 February 1928, Bantva, Gujarat (British India)

Died: 8 July 2016, Karachi, Pakistan

Known for: Founding the Edhi Foundation, helping people in need

Nickname: "Angel of Mercy"

Abdul Sattar Edhi was one of the most respected humanitarians in Pakistan's history. Millions of people knew him as a man who spent his whole life serving others.

Edhi was born on 28 February 1928 in Bantva, in Gujarat, British India. After Pakistan was created in 1947, his family moved to Karachi. There he saw many poor and sick people who had nobody to help them, and he decided to do something about it.

In 1951, he opened a small free dispensary in Karachi. Over the years, it grew into the Edhi Foundation, which runs ambulances, shelters, clinics and homes for children. The foundation is known for its ambulance service, which Guinness World Records has recognised as the largest volunteer ambulance service in the world. It also places cradles outside its centres, where babies who cannot be looked after can be left safely and cared for.

Edhi lived a very simple life and wore plain clothes. He and his wife, Bilquis Edhi, who worked as a nurse, helped people of every religion and background. He believed that helping others was the greatest duty of all.

Abdul Sattar Edhi died on 8 July 2016 in Karachi at the age of 88. He was given a state funeral, and the whole country mourned. His life teaches us that kindness and service are the true measure of a great person.