

Long ago in Egypt and Greece

1 Cleopatra VII

Who was Cleopatra? She was Queen of Egypt and Egypt's last pharaoh. Cleopatra lived from 69 B.C. to 30 B.C. When her father died in 51 B.C., Cleopatra became the new pharaoh. In Ancient Egypt it was normal for the oldest son or daughter to become pharaoh. It was also normal for brother and sister to get married.

So the eighteen-year-old Cleopatra married her ten-year-old brother Ptolemy.

Eventually, Ptolemy wanted the throne for himself and he sent Cleopatra away. Cleopatra tried to get Caesar's help, so her servants rolled her in a large rug. Caesar was so surprised to find Cleopatra in the rug that he decided to help her. Cleopatra was once again pharaoh and they had a son named Ptolemy Caesarion. Caesar, who was already married, took Cleopatra back to Rome as his captive. But Cleopatra

didn't act like a captive and told everyone that she was Caesar's wife.

When Caesar was killed in 44 B.C., Cleopatra went back to Egypt and put her son on the throne. Marc Anthony, another Roman leader, arrived in Rome in 41 B.C. He wanted to see Cleopatra but she was scared. So she arrived in a barge full of flowers and gold. Anthony was so surprised that he forgave Cleopatra that she was Caesar's wife. They married and had three children although Anthony was already married. In 30 B.C. Marc Anthony killed himself because he was told that Cleopatra was dead. Soon after that Cleopatra also killed herself.



a) Right or wrong?

Put a ✓ in the right place.

	right	wrong
1. Cleopatra VII lived from 69 B.C. to 51 B.C.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. It was normal to marry your brother or sister in Egypt.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. In Egypt the oldest daughter always became pharaoh.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Caesar took Cleopatra to Rome as his new wife.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Cleopatra sent Marc Anthony a rug full of flowers and gold.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Marc Anthony had two wives.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



- b) *Why did Cleopatra name her son Ptolemy Caesarion? What do you think?*
- c) *In Ancient Egypt the oldest son or daughter could become pharaoh. How was it in Europe a long time ago?*
- d) *Why did Caesar, Marc Anthony and other men fall in love with Cleopatra? What do you think? Work with a partner.*

USEFUL PHRASES

- I think Cleopatra was very beautiful / rich / powerful / clever ...
- Maybe she could ... / Perhaps she was so ...
- We don't really know ... because there were no ...

NEW WORDS

to marry	heiraten
eventually	schließlich, letztendlich
throne	Thron
rug	Läufer, Teppich
named	namens, mit Namen
captive	Gefangene
barge	Kahn, Frachtboot

**Lösungen**

- 1
- a) 1 wrong – Cleopatra lived from 69 B.C. to 30 B.C. 2 right 3 wrong – The oldest son or daughter became pharaoh. 4 wrong – Caesar took Cleopatra to Rome as captive. 5 wrong – Cleopatra met Marc Anthony in a barge full of flowers and gold. 6 right
- b) Cleopatra named her son Ptolemy Caesarion so that everyone could see that Caesar was the father.
- c) In Europe the oldest son always became king a long time ago.
- d) Individuelle Antworten