Historical Princess Study Guide

Cleopatra

Queen of the Nile

Name: Cleopatra VII Thea Philopator

Born: 69 BC

Died: August, 30 BC

Predecessor: Ptolemy XII

Successor: Ptolemy XV Ceasarion

Spouses: Ptolemy XIII, Ptolemy XIV, Mark Antony

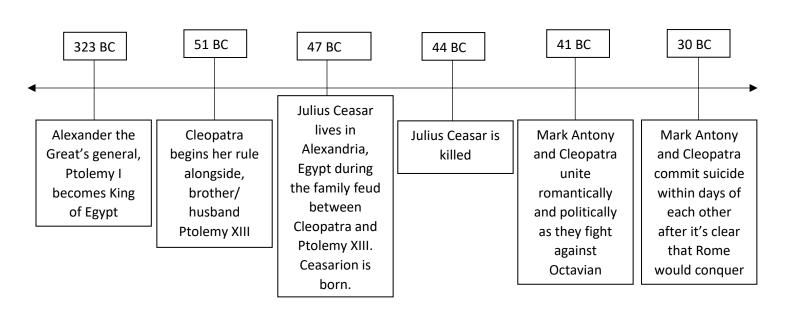
Issue: Ceasarion, Alexander Helios, Cleopatra

Selene II, Ptolemy Philedelphius

Above information gathered from Wikipedia







Website/ Non-Fiction Book List

https://www.britannica.com/biography/Cleopatra-queen-of-Egypt

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cleopatra

- Cleopatra, Queen of Egypt by, Clint Twist
- Cleopatra, the Queen of Dreams by, Haydn Middleton
- You Wouldn't Want to be Cleopatra by, Jim Pope
- Cleopatra, Serpent of the Nile by, Mary Fisk Pack

Historical Fiction

- 1. The Egyptian Book of the Dead
- 2. Antony and Cleopatra by, William Shakespeare
- 3. Cleopatra VII, Daughter of the Nile by, Kristiana Gregory
- 4. Cleopatra in Space Graphic Novel series by, Mike Maihack



The Great Library of Alexandria in Alexandria, Egypt, was one of the largest and most significant libraries of the ancient world.

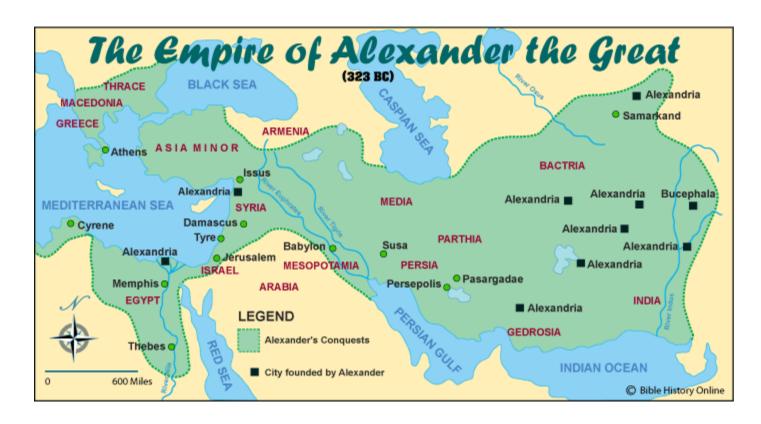
The Library was part of a larger research institution called the Mouseion, which was dedicated to the Muses, the nine goddesses of the arts. The idea of a universal library in Alexandria may have been proposed by Demetrius of Phalerum, an exiled Athenian statesman living in Alexandria, to Ptolemy I Soter, who may have established plans for the Library, but the Library itself was probably not built until the reign of his son Ptolemy II Philadelphus.

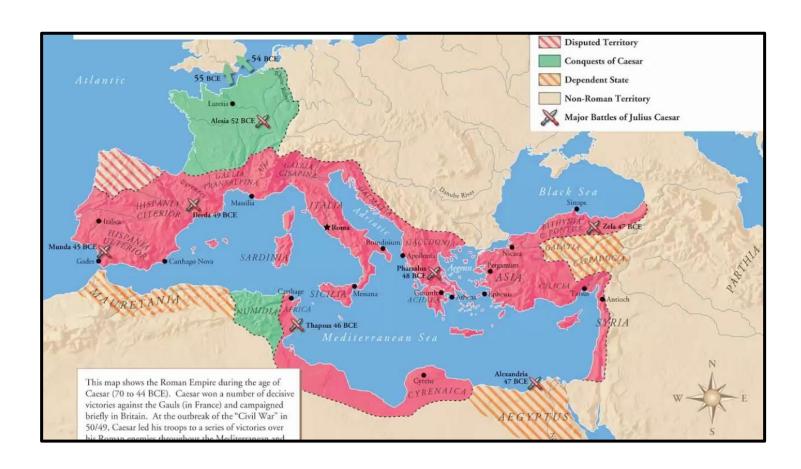
The Library quickly acquired many papyrus scrolls, due largely to the Ptolemaic kings' aggressive and well-funded policies for procuring texts. It is unknown precisely how many such scrolls were housed at any given time, but estimates range from 40,000 to 400,000 at its height.

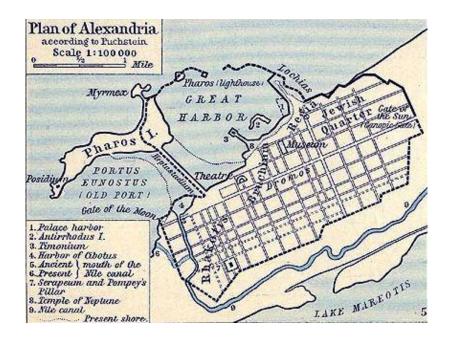
Alexandria came to be regarded as the capital of knowledge and learning, in part because of the Great Library.

The Library, or part of its collection, was accidentally burned by Julius Caesar during his civil war in 48 BC, but it is unclear how much was actually destroyed and it seems to have either survived or been rebuilt shortly thereafter. The Library dwindled during the Roman Period, due to lack of funding and support. (Info gathered from Wikipedia)

Maps







Discussion or Essay Questions

- Sibling marriage was common within ancient royal families, however, in Cleopatra's case, it may have been a political move only. Why? What were the age differences between Cleopatra and her two brother/ husbands?
- 2. Despite her competence as a ruler, Cleopatra's life story is usually based on her two Roman relationships. Who were they?
- 3. What Egyptian goddess did Cleopatra associate herself with?
- 4. How did Cleopatra die?
- 5. How long did her son rule after her? What happened to Egypt?

Activities

- 1. Create a family tree of Ptolemaic Dynasty. Mark the line of succession.
- 2. Look at the maps above. Mark important places Cleopatra traveled, lived, battled...
- 3. Study the wars Cleopatra was involved in. Write an essay about what you think her most important battle was.
- 4. Alexandria, Egypt was strongly influenced by the Greek culture. Study Greek culture, especially Alexander the Great. Study Ancient Egyptian culture as well. Write a story, or draw a picture of how the two cultural influences might have mixed.
- 5. Watch "Cleopatra" starring Elizabeth Taylor (be advised IMDb says it has mild nudity), or watch/ listen to Shakespeare's play, Antony and Cleopatra





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