

Winston Churchill

Winston Leonard Spencer-Churchill was born on the 30th of November 1874 at Blenheim Palace in Oxfordshire. His mother was visiting the house at the time.



Winston Churchill

Churchill's mother, Jennie Jerome, was American. His father, Lord Randolph Churchill was a prominent politician. He had a younger brother, named Jack.



Winston Churchill

In 1963 Winston Churchill was the first person to be made an honorary citizen of the USA, by President John F. Kennedy. He watched the ceremony at home on TV.



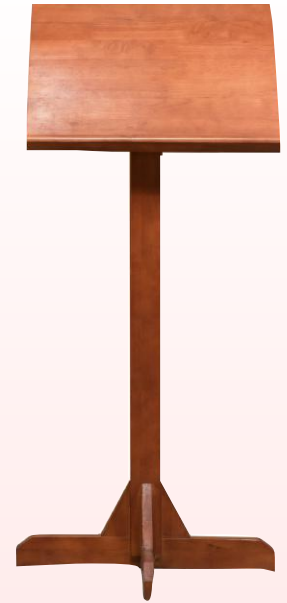
Winston Churchill

When he was young, Churchill was looked after by a nurse at home. When he was 7 he was sent to St. George's School in Ascot. He was very unhappy there.



Winston Churchill

Churchill was a great orator, which means he was very good at making inspiring speeches. This was despite the fact that he had a speech impediment.



Winston Churchill

Churchill failed the entrance exams for Sandhurst Royal Military Academy twice. In 1893, he passed on his third attempt and trained as a cavalry officer.



Winston Churchill

Churchill went to South Africa as a newspaper reporter in 1899. He was ambushed and taken prisoner, but escaped and returned to Great Britain a hero.



Winston Churchill

Churchill first entered parliament in 1900 as Conservative MP for Oldham. He was a member of parliament for 55 years.



Winston Churchill

On the 12th of September 1908 Churchill married Clementine Hozier. They were married for 56 years and had five children.



Winston Churchill

Churchill was a qualified brick layer and did a lot of building work at his home at Chartwell, including a swimming pool.



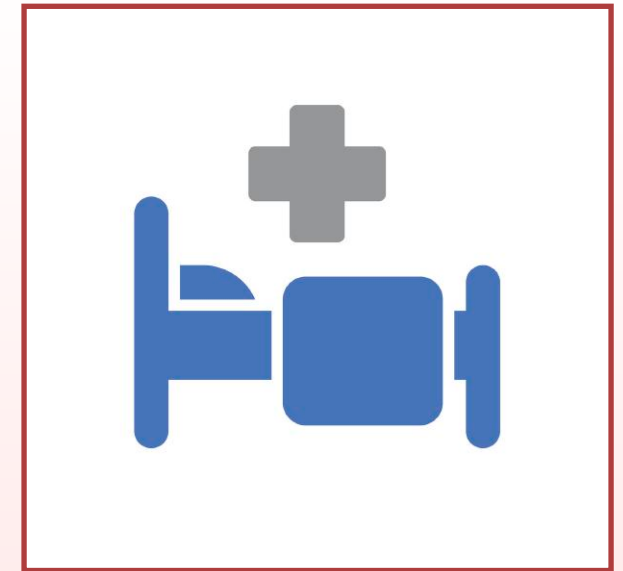
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Churchill was Prime Minister twice in his career, from the 10th of May 1940 to the 26th of July 1945, and later from the 26th of October 1951 to the 6th of April 1955.



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Churchill suffered ill health during WWII, including a heart attack and a bout of pneumonia.



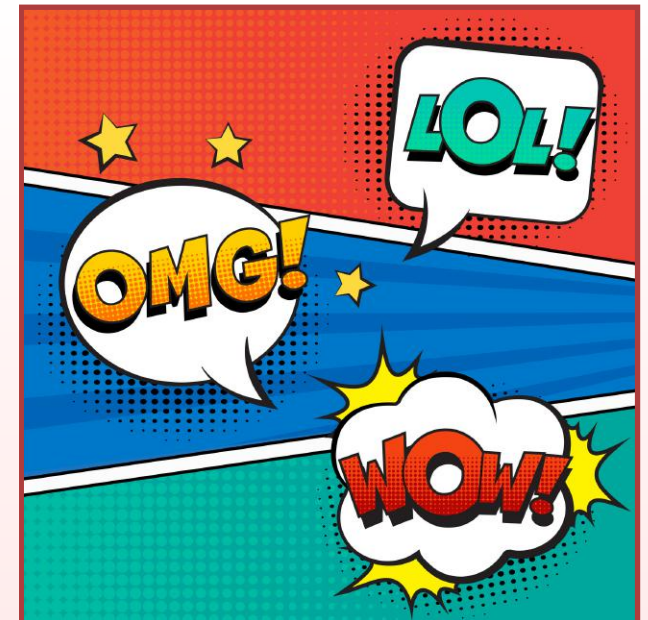
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Churchill resigned from the government during WWI, after he planned a disastrous attack at Gallipoli in which thousands died.



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The first known use of the abbreviation OMG was in a letter to Churchill from Lord Fisher which was sent in 1917.



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Churchill was well known for smoking a cigar, wearing a hat and giving his famous "V for Victory" salute.



Winston Churchill

Churchill took up painting at the age of 40, and painted over 500 paintings during his lifetime.



Winston Churchill

Churchill is buried in the graveyard of St Martin's Church, Bladon, Oxfordshire. There is also a memorial stone in Westminster Abbey which reads "Remember Winston Churchill".



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Churchill received many honours during his lifetime, including medals from Britain and other countries. He was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II on the 24th of April 1953.



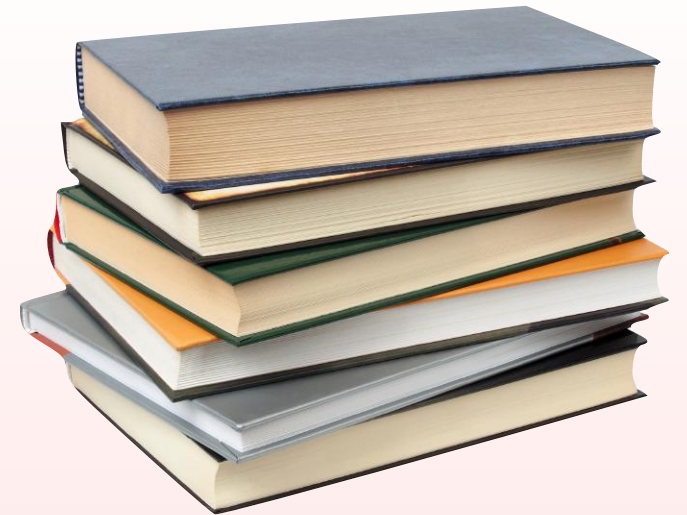
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Churchill died on the 24th of January in Kensington, London. About a million people lined the route of his state funeral, and it was watched by 350 million people on television worldwide.



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He wrote many books, including a six volume history of the Second World War. In 1953 he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature.



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