

MARGARET THATCHER

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THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Margaret Thatcher (nee Margaret Roberts) was born in 1925 in England. Her father owned two local grocery stores, which is where she first developed her business sense. The young Margaret had a strict religious upbringing. She studied chemistry and then law at university. She was Britain's Prime Minister from 1979 to 1990. Her tough style earned her the nickname "The Iron Lady".

Thatcher became a politician after winning an election in London in 1959. She served as Britain's Education Secretary from 1970 to 1974. Thatcher became Britain's first female Prime Minister in 1979. She privatised many of Britain's state-owned companies and had long battles with labour unions. She lowered taxes and inflation and greatly cut government spending.

She was very busy with her foreign policy. Britain fought and won the Falklands War against Argentina in 1982. She forged close ties with the USA and had a warm relationship with President Ronald Reagan. After the fall of the Iron Curtain, she became friends with ex-Soviet leader Mikael Gorbachev. She escaped assassination in 1984 when a bomb exploded at a hotel she was staying in.

In 1987, Thatcher won a third term in office. However, she was becoming unpopular. Unemployment was high and there were street riots after she announced a Community Tax. Her opposition to closer integration with Europe led to a leadership challenge and in 1990, she resigned. She retired from public speaking in 2002, aged 77. She died on April 8th, 2013, aged 87. "Thatcherism" is still a word commonly used in Britain.

SYNONYM MATCH Match the words on the left with their synonyms.

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. owned | a. fights |
| 2. upbringing | b. worked |
| 3. style | c. axed |
| 4. served | d. had |
| 5. battles | e. childhood |
| 6. cut | f. manner |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| 7. forged | g. murder |
| 8. ties | h. frequently |
| 9. assassination | i. union |
| 10. unpopular | j. links |
| 11. integration | k. created |
| 12. commonly | l. disliked |

PHRASE MATCH Match the following phrases from the article.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. where she first developed | a. owned companies |
| 2. Her tough style earned her | b. assassination in 1984 |
| 3. She served as | c. spending |
| 4. state- | d. policy |
| 5. greatly cut government | e. the nickname |
| 6. foreign | f. with Europe |
| 7. forged close | g. her business sense |
| 8. She escaped | h. term in office |
| 9. Thatcher won a third | i. Britain's Education Secretary |
| 10. opposition to closer integration | j. ties with the USA |

LISTENING GAP FILL

Margaret Thatcher (nee Margaret Roberts) _____ in England. Her father owned two local grocery stores, which is where she first developed her _____. The young Margaret had a strict _____. She studied chemistry and then law at university. She was Britain's Prime Minister from 1979 to 1990. Her _____ her the nickname "The Iron Lady".

Thatcher became a politician after _____ in London in 1959. _____ Britain's Education Secretary from 1970 to 1974. Thatcher became Britain's first female Prime Minister in 1979. She privatised many of Britain's _____ companies and had long battles with labour unions. She lowered taxes and inflation _____ government spending.

She was very busy with _____. Britain fought and won the Falklands War against Argentina in 1982. She _____ with the USA and had a warm relationship with President Ronald Reagan. After _____ Iron Curtain, she became friends with ex-Soviet leader Mikael Gorbachev. She _____ in 1984 when a bomb exploded at a hotel she was staying in.

In 1987, Thatcher won _____ office. However, she was becoming unpopular. Unemployment was high and there were street _____ announced a Community Tax. Her opposition to closer integration with Europe led to a _____ and in 1990, she resigned. She retired from public speaking in 2002, aged 77. She died on April 8th, 2013, aged 87. "Thatcherism" is still a word _____ used in Britain.

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs of italics.

Margaret Thatcher (nee Margaret Roberts) was born in 1925 in England. Her father *owning / owned* two local grocery stores, which is where she first developed her business *sense / sensible*. The young Margaret had a strict religious *downgrading / upbringing*. She studied chemistry and then law at university. She was Britain's Prime Minister from 1979 to 1990. Her *trough / tough* style earned her the nickname "The Iron Lady".

Thatcher became a politician after *winning / won* an election in London in 1959. She *served / savoured* as Britain's Education Secretary from 1970 to 1974. Thatcher became Britain's first female Prime Minister in 1979. She privatised many of Britain's *state- / stately-* owned companies and had long battles with labour unions. She lowered taxes and inflation and greatly *axe / cut* government spending.

She was very busy with her *foreigner / foreign* policy. Britain fought and won the Falklands War against Argentina in 1982. She forged close *ties / scarves* with the USA and had a warm relationship with President Ronald Reagan. After the *fall / fell* of the Iron Curtain, she became friends with ex-Soviet leader Mikael Gorbachev. She escaped assassination in 1984 when a bomb *explosion / exploded* at a hotel she was staying in.

In 1987, Thatcher won a third term *in / on* office. However, she was becoming unpopular. Unemployment was high and there were street *riot / riots* after she announced a Community Tax. Her opposition to closer integration with Europe led to a leadership challenge and in 1990, she resigned. She *retired / retried* from public speaking in 2002, aged 77. She died on April 8th, 2013, aged 87. "Thatcherism" is still a word *commons / commonly* used in Britain.

SPELLING

These jumbled words are from the text. Spell them correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. grocery eosrst
2. developed her business ssene
3. a strict ueiorisgl upbringing
4. the naimcekn "The Iron Lady"

Paragraph 2

5. winning an eelnioct in London
6. She dvrsee as Britain's Education Secretary
7. state-oewnd companies
8. greatly cut government sndgnpie

Paragraph 3

9. foreign lcipto
10. She edrgfo close ties with the USA
11. She eaecpsd assassination
12. a bomb eodxledp

Paragraph 4

13. Thatcher won a third term in fiocfe
14. tseetr riots
15. Isorec integration with Europe
16. olnmocym used in Britain

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () relationship with President Ronald Reagan. After the fall of the Iron Curtain, she became friends
- () against Argentina in 1982. She forged close ties with the USA and had a warm
- (**1**) Margaret Thatcher (nee Margaret Roberts) was born in 1925 in England. Her father
- () Thatcher became a politician after winning an election in London in 1959. She served
- () In 1987, Thatcher won a third term in office. However, she was becoming
- () She was very busy with her foreign policy. Britain fought and won the Falklands War
- () opposition to closer integration with Europe led to a leadership challenge and in 1990,
- () Margaret had a strict religious upbringing. She studied chemistry and then law at university. She was Britain's Prime Minister
- () owned two local grocery stores, which is where she first developed her business sense. The young
- () unpopular. Unemployment was high and there were street riots after she announced a Community Tax. Her
- () she resigned. She retired from public speaking in 2002, aged 77. She died on April 8th, 2013, aged 87. "Thatcherism" is still a word commonly used in Britain.
- () battles with labour unions. She lowered taxes and inflation and greatly cut government spending.
- () female Prime Minister in 1979. She privatised many of Britain's state-owned companies and had long
- () from 1979 to 1990. Her tough style earned her the nickname "The Iron Lady".
- () as Britain's Education Secretary from 1970 to 1974. Thatcher became Britain's first
- () with ex-Soviet leader Mikael Gorbachev. She escaped assassination in 1984 when a bomb exploded at a hotel she was staying in.

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With your partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. stores grocery local two owned father Her.

2. young religious Margaret upbringing had a The strict.

3. earned style tough Her nickname the her.

4. became an a election politician after Thatcher winning.

5. many state companies privatised Britain's owned She of -.

6. with ties close forged She USA the.

7. staying bomb a was A at she in exploded hotel.

8. Europe with integration closer to opposition Her.

9. retired She 2002 in speaking public from.

10. Britain in used commonly "Thatcherism" word a still is.

DISCUSSION (Write your questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What do you know about Margaret Thatcher?
2. Would you like to have met Margaret Thatcher?
3. What would you like to know about Margaret Thatcher and why?
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

DISCUSSION (Write your questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. What did you learn from this text about Margaret Thatcher?
2. What questions would you like to have asked Margaret Thatcher?
3. What would her answers have been to those questions?
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

THE MARGARET THATCHER SURVEY

Write five questions about MARGARET THATCHER in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITING

Write about Margaret Thatcher for 10 minutes. Show your partner your paper. Correct each other's work.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or other search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find more information about Margaret Thatcher. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MARGARET THATCHER POSTER: Make a poster showing the different stages of the life of Margaret Thatcher. Why was she called the "Iron Lady"? Show your poster to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all find out similar things?

4. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article Margaret Thatcher. Include an imaginary interview with someone who knew her well. Write about how she changed Britain.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on Margaret Thatcher. Ask him/her three questions about her life. Give her three opinions on the "Iron Lady". Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your "Margaret Thatcher expert" partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

SYNONYM MATCH:

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. owned | a. had |
| 2. upbringing | b. childhood |
| 3. style | c. manner |
| 4. served | d. worked |
| 5. battles | e. fights |
| 6. cut | f. axed |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| 7. forged | g. created |
| 8. ties | h. links |
| 9. assassination | i. murder |
| 10. unpopular | j. disliked |
| 11. integration | k. union |
| 12. commonly | l. frequently |

PHRASE MATCH:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. where she first developed | a. her business sense |
| 2. Her tough style earned her | b. the nickname |
| 3. She served as | c. Britain's Education Secretary |
| 4. state- | d. owned companies |
| 5. greatly cut government | e. spending |
| 6. foreign | f. policy |
| 7. forged close | g. ties with the USA |
| 8. She escaped | h. assassination in 1984 |
| 9. Thatcher won a third | i. term in office |
| 10. opposition to closer integration | j. with Europe |

ALL OTHER EXERCISES:

Look at the text on page 2.