

Name _____ Cleopatra



Cleopatra

Cleopatra was the daughter of Pharaoh Ptolemy XII of Egypt. She was born a princess into the Ptolemy dynasty, which was established by Alexander the Great. At the time of Cleopatra's birth the Ptolemy dynasty had ruled Egypt for 300 years.

The Ptolemy family was actually Greek, not Egyptian, and Cleopatra spoke, read, and wrote in Greek. She also spoke many other languages, including Egyptian and Latin.

Cleopatra was very clever, and she learned much from her father about how he ruled Egypt. When her father died, when she was eighteen, she and her ten-year-old brother, Ptolemy XIII, jointly inherited his throne. They were married and became co-rulers of Egypt. Because Cleopatra was so much older, she was the primary ruler, but as her brother got older, he wanted more power. So he made Cleopatra leave the palace so he could be Pharaoh on his own.

1. Cleopatra was a princess of what country? _____

2. What was Cleopatra's nationality? _____

3. Why did Cleopatra marry her younger brother?

4. What happened to Cleopatra as her brother got older?
