

CASE STUDY

Read the following case study and answer the questions that follow:

Marie was born in 1867 in Warsaw, Poland, where her father was a Professor of Physics. At an early age, she displayed a brilliant mind and a blithe personality. Her great exuberance for learning prompted her to continue with her studies after high school. She became disgruntled, however, when she learned that the university in Warsaw was closed to women. Determined to receive a higher education, she defiantly left Poland and in 1891 entered the Sorbonne, a French university, where she earned her master's degree and doctorate in physics.

Marie was fortunate to have studied at the Sorbonne with some of the greatest scientists of her day, one of whom was Pierre Curie. Marie and Pierre were married in 1895 and spent many productive years working together in the physics laboratory. A short time after they discovered radium, Pierre was killed by a horse-drawn wagon in 1906. Marie was stunned

by this horrible misfortune and endured heart breaking anguish. Despondently she recalled their close relationship and the joy that they had shared in scientific research. The fact that she had two young daughters to raise by herself greatly increased her distress.

Curie's feeling of desolation finally began to fade when she was asked to succeed her husband as a physics professor at the Sorbonne. She was the first woman to be given a professorship at the world-famous university. In 1911 she received the Nobel Prize in chemistry for isolating radium. Although Marie Curie eventually suffered a fatal illness from her long exposure to radium, she never became disillusioned about her work. Regardless of the consequences, she had dedicated herself to science and to revealing the mysteries of the physical world.

A. Answer the following questions:

1. In which country was Marie born?
2. What was her reaction when she came to know that University in Warsaw was closed to women?

3. In which year did she enter the French University?
4. Which degree did she acquire from French University?
5. What was her husband's name?
6. What was discovered by Marie Curie and Pierre Curie?
7. What was the reason behind Marie Curie's suffering from fatal illness?

B. Fill in the blanks:

- I. Marie Curie received Nobel prize in.....for.....
- II. Marie Curie was married in the year.....
- III. She was born in the year.....
- IV. Her husband died in the year.....

C. Find out the meanings of the following words:

(You may take the help of dictionary)

- I. Dedicated
- II. Fatal illness

- III. Desolation
- IV. Exuberance
- V. Blithe
- VI. Disgruntled