

Why were Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and Edith Cavell significant people?

Substantive concepts

Key Vocabulary



Mary Seacole

A British–Jamaican nurse born in Jamaica in 1805.

She is remembered for breaking social rules.



Florence Nightingale

A British nurse born in 1820 in Florence, Italy.









She is remembered today for the changes that she made in standards of nursing. She was also called The Lady with the Lamp because she carried a lamp whilst caring for patients in hospitals.



Edith Cavell

A British nurse born in England in 1865.

She is remembered for saving the lives of soldiers from both sides of the war in World War 1 and for helping soldiers to escape the war.

	country	Land that is controlled by a government. Area of land larger than a county.
	war	When groups of people or different countries argue and fight against each other.
	army	A powerful group of people that defend from enemies and serve for their country.
	enemy	Someone who attacks or tries to harm others.
	significant person	An important person who made a change in the past which has influenced the way our lives are today.
	Crimean War (1853 – 1856)	A war between Russia on one side and France, United Kingdom and Sardinia on the other. Russia lost.
	hygienic	Ways to keep things clean by throwing away rubbish. Being hygienic helps to stop the spread of germs and diseases.
	evidence	Things we see, read, look at, listen to which tell us about the past.

<u>Nursing during the Crimean War (1853 – 1856)</u>	<u>Nursing Today (2025)</u>
- Staff were uneducated and inexperienced, and women were not usually respected as nurses.	- Nurses are well educated and get good training before they become a nurse. Both men and women are nurses.
- Not enough equipment and supplies.	- Nurses wear trainers so their feet are comfortable.
- The hospitals were filthy and patients were not cared for properly.	- Hospitals are clean, patients feel safe and are well cared for.
- There were lots of wars breaking out during this time.	- Wars are not as common.
- Communication between nurses and doctors was poor.	- Communication between nurses and doctors is good and nurses are respected by doctors and their community.

