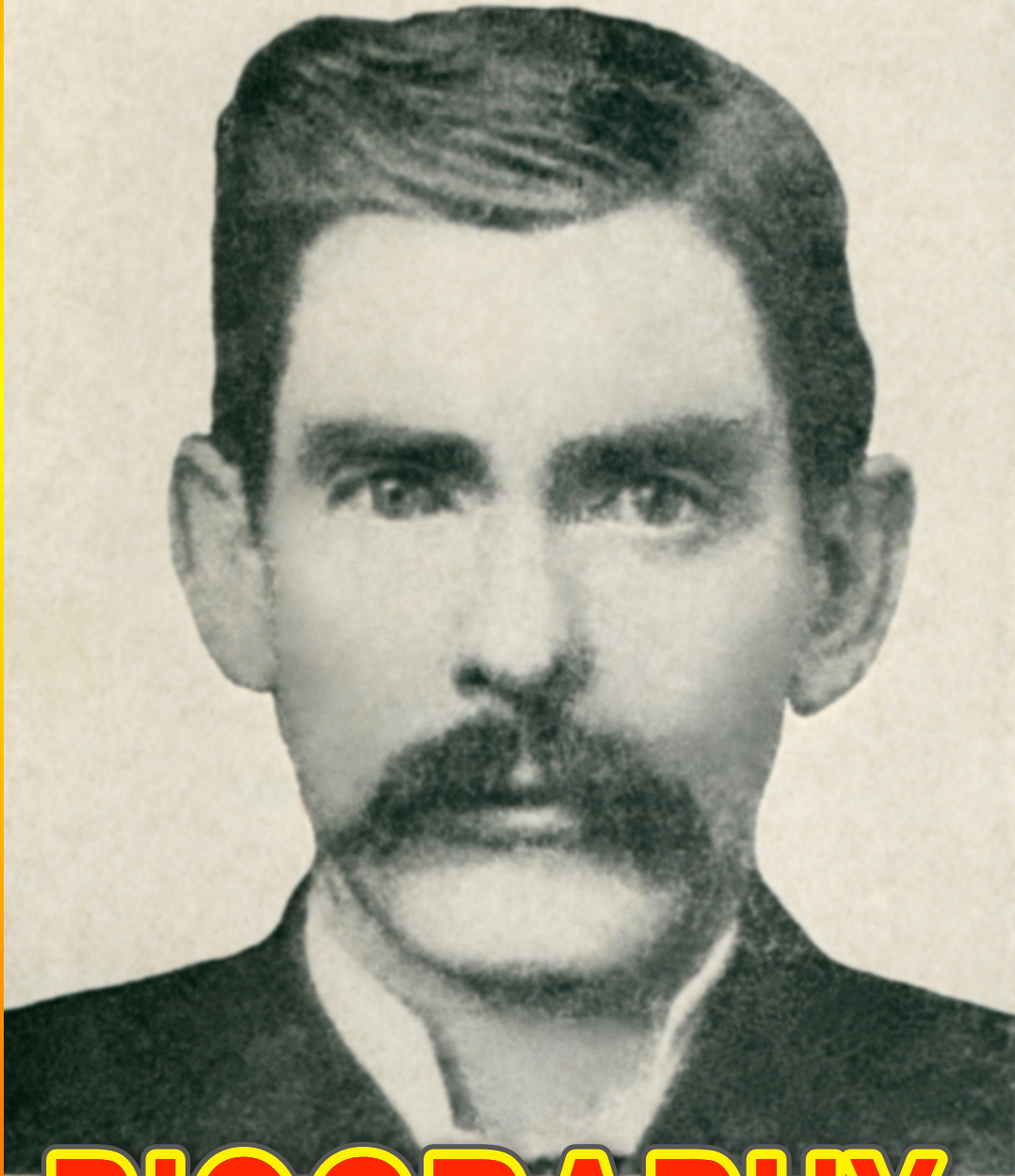


# DOC HOLLIDAY



# BIOGRAPHY

# DOC HOLLIDAY

John Henry 'Doc' Holliday was born August 14, 1851, in Griffin, Georgia. Holliday did well at school, and went on to study dentistry in Philadelphia. He graduated in 1872, and then moved back to Georgia to set up a dental practice in Atlanta. It was his dental work that meant he got the nickname 'Doc'. In 1873, Holliday caught tuberculosis, and he moved to Dallas, Texas to improve his health by being in warmer weather.

Holliday worked as a dentist in Dallas, but he was also drawn into drinking, fighting, and playing cards in the evenings. At one point, he was charged with murder, but he escaped and then moved around within Texas, as well as through Colorado, Wyoming, and South Dakota. Eventually Holliday came to Dodge City, Kansas. There he saved law-enforcer Wyatt Earp from cowboys, and the two men became friends.

Years later, Earp and his brothers moved to Tombstone, Arizona, which was a mining town near Mexico. Holliday joined them in 1880. Here, the legendary gunfight at the O.K. Corral took place on October 26, 1881.

Virgil Earp was the police chief for Tombstone at the time. He had heard that cowboys were coming into town, and he expected trouble. So he made Holliday his deputy and took Wyatt and Morgan Earp with them to confront the trouble-makers. The shootout was short, but it cost three men their lives. Holliday and others were wounded in the fight. Holliday and Wyatt Earp were arrested for murder, but not charged or brought to trial.

Soon after the fight, Wyatt Earp's brother, Morgan, was killed. Wyatt set off to hunt down the killer, and Holliday followed him for many months. During this time Wyatt and Holliday took part in many shoot-outs. In the end, Wyatt Earp and Holliday came across two armed men, Frank Stilwell and Ike Clanton, ready to ambush Virgil Earp. The next day, Frank Stilwell was found dead.

Wyatt Earp and Holliday went on the run, and ended up in Colorado. Holliday was arrested, but then released, in Denver. He eventually lived in Glenwood Springs, Colorado, where he died from tuberculosis on November 8, 1887, in the Glenwood Springs hotel.

# Understanding words

Before we can understand a story we have to know what all of the words mean. Let's try one...

a Write the sentence in which you found the word 'legendary'.

b From that sentence, suggest what 'legendary' means.

c Write a new sentence using the word 'legendary'.

d Use a dictionary to find words with a similar meaning (synonyms) to 'legendary'.

e Draw a small picture showing what you think 'legendary' means.

# Finding key words

Next, we need to find the key words that tell us what the story is about...

Read the story and underline the key words. Write the most important of these key words in a list like the one below. Write next to it a word that means a similar thing (a synonym). You don't have to use all the spaces, but you should not use more.

Key word	Synonym (similar word)
Example: released	let go

# Sequencing

Sequencing means getting the events in the right order. Write these sentences in the correct order, so they make sense.

After the fight, Earp's brother was killed, and Holliday and Earp then took revenge.

Holliday became a dentist and got the nickname 'Doc'.

In 1873, Holliday caught tuberculosis, so he moved to Texas.

There Holliday became involved in drinking and gunfighting.

John Henry Holliday was born in Georgia in 1851.

Holliday went to Dodge City, Kansas, where he became friends with Wyatt Earp.

Holliday and Earp were in the gunfight at the O.K. Corral in 1881.

# Get to the facts

1 Where was Holliday born?

2 Which disease did Holliday catch in 1873?

3 Who did Holliday save from cowboys?

4 Which gunfight were Holliday and Earp involved in?

5 When did Holliday die?

# Make a story...

When you read a description it often gives you ideas about how the event might be described differently.

## Saving Wyatt Earp

Imagine you are Doc Holliday. You are new in Dodge City. One evening you walk into a saloon and see a fight breaking out between Wyatt Earp and some cowboys... (now complete the story)

**Below is a plain text version for printing:**



## Understanding words:

- a Write the sentence in which you found the word 'legendary'.
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## Finding key words:

Read the story and underline the key words. Write the most important of these key words in a list. Write next to it a word that means a similar thing (a synonym).

For example:

Key word – released                      Synonym – let go

## Sequencing:

Write these sentences in the correct order, so they make sense:

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Holliday went to Dodge City, Kansas, where he became friends with Wyatt Earp.

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## **Make a story...**

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