

TAREA 1

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Winston Churchill: Surprising Facts on the British Bulldog

QUESTION	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
ANSWER	C	A	B	C	C	A	B

Although Churchill is best remembered as **(0) Prime Minister of the United Kingdom during World War II** and one of the greatest wartime leaders in history, there is a lot about him the general public do not know. Here are some surprising facts about the British Bulldog.

Churchill was half-American.

(1) It was common to see British aristocrats marrying rich American women in the late 19th century. Churchill's father, Lord Randolph Churchill, married Brooklyn-born Jennie Jerome, whose father was a successful American banker. **(2) The Churchills had two sons**, Winston (1874) and Jack (1880). Winston loved his mother very much. As adults the two would become close friends, and at times Winston would even ask his mother for political advice.

Churchill hated school. Churchill's early years gave no indication of his future achievements. He disliked school and was a bad student. As a teenager, he was one of the worst students in his class, and **(3) he failed his entrance exams twice before getting into military school.** However, the two subjects he was really good at were History and English.

Churchill suffered from a speech impediment.

Like his father before him, Churchill had a difficult time pronouncing the letters "s" and "z." To help with his impediment, Churchill would do exercises, repeating phrases such as "The Spanish ships I cannot see for they are not in sight."

Churchill was a prisoner of war.

After graduating from college, Churchill worked as a news reporter and **(4) later as both a war correspondent and military officer.** While in South Africa in 1899, Churchill was captured by Boer guerilla fighters (Dutch descendants who were fighting the British) and **was taken as a prisoner of war.** He managed to escape and received a hero's welcome.

Churchill introduced the term "iron curtain."

(5) Although he supported the Soviet Union during World War II (1939-1945), Churchill began questioning the country's political goals in Europe and expressed his doubts in his famous "Iron Curtain Speech" in March 1946. "From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended across the continent," he said, adding that the Soviets only admire military strength. This was the speech that started the Cold War. Since then, Western leaders used the phrase "iron curtain" when talking about the Soviet Union.

Churchill won a Nobel Prize in Literature.

(6) Churchill has the honor of being the only British Prime Minister to have received a Nobel Prize in Literature. In 1953 the prize was given to him for "his mastery of historical and biographical description as well as for brilliant oratory in defending human values." During his lifetime Churchill wrote over 20 books, including his military adventures in India and South Africa, a biography of his father, histories of both World Wars, and even a novel.