

# The Three Musketeers

Alexandre Dumas

## A Before Reading

1 The picture on the right shows two of the most important characters in the story, D'Artagnan and Constance.



When do you think they lived?

Where do you think they lived? (City/village? Which country?)

Do you think they were rich or poor? Do you think they had jobs?

What do you think is the relationship between them?

2 In the story, you will see all of the words in the picture below. Use the picture to help you find the right words for the definitions on the right. The first one is an example.



- 1 a circular piece of jewellery that you wear on your finger ring
- 2 a small hotel or pub \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 a sharp weapon with a short handle and long blade \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 a large strong building used to protect people \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 a woman who belongs to a religious community of women \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 an object which helps people to get to high places \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 very hard and expensive stones \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 a very large boat \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 a room under a building, below the ground \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 a piece of clothing that covers your fingers and hand \_\_\_\_\_
- 11 an area of water on the coast where boats stop \_\_\_\_\_
- 12 a vehicle pulled by horses \_\_\_\_\_

3 Three characters in the story – Athos, Aramis and Porthos – are musketeers, the most important soldiers in the King’s army. D’Artagnan also wants to be a King’s musketeer. What sort of people do you think the King chooses as his musketeers? Complete the sentence with your ideas.

The King’s musketeers must be ...

## B While Reading

4 Many people die during the story. As you read, write in the table: who dies, who kills them, how and why.

Who dies?	Who kills them?	How?	Why?
The man in Calais and his servant	D'Artagnan and Planchet	By their swords	Because D'Artagnan needs the man's paper with permission to go to England

5 Then D'Artagnan had an idea. 'I know someone who can help us... Lord de Winter. Milady doesn't like him and he doesn't like her. He went back to London at the beginning of the war. He'll tell Buckingham about her.' (p45)

You are D'Artagnan. Write a letter to Lord de Winter asking for his help.

*Dear Lord de Winter,...*

6 What is going to happen after each picture? Match the pictures below to the sentences on the next page.













- a Constance is going to die.
- b Athos is going to take an important note from Milady.
- c D'Artagnan is going to become a lieutenant.
- d There is going to be a fight and the men are going to shoot Aramis in the arm.
- e D'Artagnan is going to try to meet Constance at St Cloud castle.
- f Milady is going to go to England for the cardinal.

## C After Reading

- 7 a Write sentences about D'Artagnan to finish the 'name poem' below. Each sentence must include a letter from his name.

**D**  
He is a br**A**ve soldier  
**R**  
**T**  
**A**  
**G**  
**N**  
He loved Const**A**nce  
**N**

- b Now choose another character from the story and make a 'name poem' for them too.
- 8 At the end of the story, D'Artagnan is unhappy because his friends are leaving the musketeers and Constance is dead. But Athos tells him:
- My friend... you are young. You are sad now, but be patient. In the future, you will be very happy again. I promise you. (p65)*
- Write a paragraph explaining how you think D'Artagnan became happy again. For example: Did he fall in love again? Did he have more exciting adventures as a musketeer? What happened to him next?