

THEME 8 DIGITAL ERA LISTENING SKILL (SPICE UP)

A. Listen to the short biography of Ada Lovelace and answer the questions. (Track 8.1 Workbook)

1. Which subjects did she study in her early years?
2. Who was Charles Babbage?
3. How old was she when she died?

B. Listen to the text again and complete the missing information. (Track 8.1 Workbook)

1. _____ was the poet who was Ada's father.
2. _____ was the person who probably became the first computer programmer.
3. _____ was the country where Ada lived.
4. _____ was the early computer which Babbage invented.
5. _____ was the year when Ada died of cancer.

Track 8.1 Workbook

Ada Lovelace, who was the daughter of the famous English poet Lord Byron, was one of the first women to become involved in the technology of computers. She lived in England in the early 1800s. Ada's mother didn't want her to be a poet like her father, so she had her child tutored in maths and science. In 1833, Ada heard a lecture by Charles Babbage, a mathematician who had recently developed the idea for a mechanical calculator that he called the Difference Engine. In 1843, Ada wrote an algorithm for Babbage's machine, which was perhaps the world's first computer program. She died of cancer at the early age of 36 in November 1852.