

THEME 3 LEGENDARY FIGURE LISTENING SKILL (SUNSHINE)

A. Listen to a radio program about the life of a legendary figure in Turkish history and put the events in chronological order. (Tapescript 11)

- _____ **a.** He died of pneumonia.
- _____ **b.** In 1915, there was a heavy naval bombardment.
- _____ **c.** He served in the Balkans. Then, the army transferred him to the Dardanelles.
- _____ **d.** Seyit was born in Havran.
- _____ **e.** His statue was erected near Kilitbahir Castle.
- _____ **f.** Seyit carried shells by himself to fire at the enemy.

Tapescript 11

Radio Presenter: Good evening, dear listeners. Welcome to our program “Legendary Figures.” Today’s legendary figure comes from one of my favorite countries, Türkiye. His name is Seyit Ali Çabuk. He was a legendary figure in Dardanelle War. Let’s take a look at his life briefly. Seyit was born in the village of Havran and in 1909, he enlisted into the army. Between 1912 and 1913, he served in the Balkan Wars. Then, the army transferred him to the forts at the Mediterranean entrance to the Dardanelles. His job was to defend these forts. On 18 March 1915, while there was a heavy naval bombardment, Seyit’s gun was unharmed, but its shell crane was damaged. In other words, he had no device to carry the shell to the gun. However, Seyit didn’t quit and he carried three shells weighing 215 kg. to the gun and he continued to fire on the enemy. Can you believe that? Think about the determination and the power of this one man! And one of these shells hit the British ship named Ocean. After that hit, the ship was sunk by a mine laid by the minelayer Nusret. In the end, everything worked out for Seyit. Seyit was then promoted to corporal and he became a Turkish icon. Interestingly, after the Battle of Çanakkale, Seyit was asked to have a picture of him with the shell he carried, but this time he couldn’t move it. Then, Seyit reacted with these words: “If there is a war again, I’ll lift it again.” This shows how much a man can change when he has to defend his country, dear listeners. In other words, he was a true patriot.

In 1918, he was discharged from the army and he worked as a forester first and then, as a coal-miner. In 1934, after the passing of the Surname Law, he took the surname Çabuk. Life wasn’t all roses for Seyit. He worked really hard and he died of pneumonia in 1939. To honor this great man, his statue carrying a shell was erected in 1992 near Kilitbahir Castle on the Gallipoli Peninsula.