Voltaire excelled in his courses at Le College Louis-le-Grand, the Jesuit school he attended until the age of sixteen.

Voltaire was born François Marie Arouet on November 21, 1694, in Paris, France.

In 1718, the young writer created his pen name.

By 1726, Voltaire was sentenced once again to the Bastille. When given the choice of staying in the Bastille or being sent into exile, Voltaire chose exile.

His mother died when Voltaire was only seven years old, and he inherited a large amount of money.

Voltaire, now twenty years old, began writing full time.

From 1726 to 1729, he lived in Bolingbroke, England.

In 1728, the ban on "La Henriade" was lifted and the poem was finally published. It was accepted with praise throughout Europe.

In 1728, Voltaire moved to Switzerland in 1750.

In 1759, Voltaire completed "Candide," the most famous of all his works.

Voltaire died in Paris on May 30, 1778, at the age of 83.