

The Man in the Iron Mask

Alexandre Dumas

A Before Reading

- 1 Look at the picture on the cover. Think about the title of the story. Make some guesses about the story of 'The Man in the Iron Mask'. Why does he wear a mask? What will happen to him in the story?
- 2 Read *A Note About This Story*. Make a chart.

The four friends	
Their country	
Their names	
Their job	
Their 'promise'	
The meaning of their promise in your language	



B While Reading

- 3 Read Chapters 1 and 2. Complete this man's thoughts.

My name is

My mother is

I am years old

I am the King's

4 Read to the end of Chapter 5. Connect each person in Column 1 with a title in Column 2 and a piece of information in Column 3.

1	2	3
D'Artagnan	Chief Minister of Finance	wants to arrest Fouquet
Aramis	King of France	wants to be Chief Minister of Finance
Colbert	Bishop of Vannes	doesn't like the King
Fouquet	Second Minister of Finance	will always fight for the King
Louis	Captain of the King's Musketeers	wants to be Pope in Rome

5 Read to the end of Chapter 7. Philippe says, 'Porthos ... must have a gift. He's going to be a duke.' How did Porthos help Philippe?

6 Look at the titles for Chapters 8 to 14. Here are some new chapter titles, but they are in the wrong order. Write the correct chapter title next to each new one.

- The End of the Musketeers
- D'Artagnan, the Prisoner
- 'I am your son'
- Commands for D'Artagnan
- Louis Plans His Revenge
- Battle on Belle-Isle
- Aramis's Plan Fails

C After Reading

7 Look at Page 34. 'There is a secret between you and the King,' says Fouquet to Aramis. 'Please tell me about it.' Write Aramis's reply. Use 100 to 200 words. (You can write in your own language.)

8 Who is the man in the iron mask? What happened to him? Make some guesses.

9 How good or bad are these people? Write their names in the correct position on this chart.

Aramis	Louis XIV	Porthos	D'Artagnan	Colbert	Athos
Fouquet	Philippe	Baisemeaux	Queen Anne	Louis III	

Good
Bad

- 10 You are making a film of *The Man in the Iron Mask*. Choose your actors for these people. Then watch a video of the story and make a list of the real actors.

Character	Your choice	Actor in film
Aramis		
D'Artagnan		
Porthos		
Louis XIV/Phillippe		
Fouquet		
Colbert		
Baisemeaux		
Queen Anne		
Athos		