Florence Nightingale

I. Introduction

- Introduction of Florence Nightingale
- Her family and educational background
- The vision for a career in nursing and the family opposition

II. Historical Period that Florence Nightingale Had Lived during and Worked in

- The historical background of the Crimean War and the suffering of patients in hospitals
- How the suffering of patients in the military hospitals had moved the heart of Florence Nightingale to intervene. The conditions of patients, especially in Scutari moving the heart of Florence
- Many patients/soldiers died not because their conditions had been very critical but due to the poor nursing care received in the military hospitals admitted
- The nursing star in Florence Nightingale began to shine during the Crimean War during which she had saved the lives of many wounded soldiers

III. Where She Had Lived and Worked
• Florence had lived and worked for some time in Turkey at the military hospital where British soldiers suffering from injuries from the Crimean War were admitted.

• She, therefore, had lived for a long time in Scutari in Turkey while leading a team of nurses to improve the conditions of suffering patients in the military hospital in Turkey.

• She had worked in Middlesex Hospital, where she focused on caring for Cholera victims dying daily in high numbers in the 1950s.

• She also established Nightingale Training School upon her return to England in 1860.

• She worked as a lead nurse and trainer at St. Thomas’ Hospital that she had established in London.

• She later had spent a lot of time writing articles and publications on nursing and nursing care.

IV. Public Health Endeavors that Florence Nightingale Impacted on

• Florence Nightingale had worked hard to improve the sanitation in the military health facilities where she worked especially in Scutari.

• She had ensured that drugs were available in; and that all the patients in the healthcare facilities were attended at any time of the day or night.
• Even when all the hospital staff retired for the night, Florence could be seen alone with a small lamp making rounds and helping her suffering patients.

• Patients in the hospital were situated in cold rooms without blankets to cover their bodies, with a poor diet, unwashed army uniforms, or paining war wounds.

• Florence Nightingale had worked so hard to ensure that there were public health facilities accessible by everybody irrespectively of race and a class.

• She had ensured that all the nurses and hospital personnel were approachable and empathetic to the needs and sufferings of the patients brought in for their care and attention.

V. The Challenges Faced while Implementing the Reforms

• The family was very hesitant to let her pursue her career in nursing. Being from the wealthy family, nursing was the career to be left for the low class.

• Her initiative to train more female nurses was opposed by the officials in the British Military Hospitals who considered her move to be feminist.

• She had worked amidst the official opposition to persuade men and women to embrace nursing as the career for any educated and trained person.
VI. The Impact that Nightingale Has Created from Her Nursing Initiative

- Mortality rates tremendously reduced in hospitals where she had worked by improving hygiene there and ensuring to have a proper nutritious diet for her patients.

- She successfully lobbied to improved medical conditions for soldiers dying even from the preventable diseases in military barracks.

- Her experience led to writing more than 200 papers, books and reports to be continually used to lobby for the improved nursing care in many parts of the world to date. Her approach has especially stressed on the cleanliness, warmth, fresh air, and a good diet as a holistic approach to the patients’ recovery.

- Her passion in nursing, commitment, lobbying and advocating for the improved nursing care has been used to develop the modern nursing care programs and initiatives.
References

