

Maria Eva Duarte was born near Buenos Aires, Argentina. Her family was poor so she went to Buenos Aires at the age of 15 to become an actress. She met Juan Perón there in 1944 when she was a successful radio actress and married him the following year.

Juan Perón had held various government posts since 1943. When he became president of Argentina in 1946, Evita (= "little Eva") ran the ministries of Labour and of Health. By 1947 she owned or controlled almost every radio station in Argentina, and had closed or banned over 100 newspapers and magazines.

She was a gifted speaker and campaigned hard for women's rights. However, her bid to become vice-president was blocked by military leaders who feared she might one day become president and be in charge of them. Her death from cancer shortly afterwards contributed to the decline of her husband's regime.



actress: woman actor
successful: triumphant
government: administration
labour: work
health: opposite of illness
own: have, possess

close: shut
ban: chase out of the country
gifted: skilled
campaign: fight
bid: wish
fear: be afraid

in charge of: being boss
cancer: a disease
contribute: help
decline: going down
regime: rule

YES or NO?

Evita came from a rich family. **NO**
 Evita was French.
 Evita was an actress.
 Evita married Juan Perón.
 Evita was against women's rights.

When Evita was a minister she fought for press freedom.
 Evita was the president of Argentina.
 The army generals helped her to become vice-president of the country.
 Evita died of cancer.

Odd one out in each line:

Argentina	Peru	Brazil	Sweden	Bolivia
Juan Perón	Salvador Allende	Pancho Villa	Hugo Chavez	Helmut Kohl
Buenos Aires	Washington DC	Mexico City	New York	Ottawa
good	excellent	gifted	successful	poor
run	control	forget	own	have
bid	desire	want	wish	hate

Name six countries of South America:

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