

## Creative Fun with History!

### Acting-Up History:

#### **Florence Nightingale & the Crimean War**

Cast: Narrator, Florence Nightingale, Miss Social Opinion, Doctor Disapproval, Wounded Soldiers  
Chorus—each with appropriate bandages

#### **Narrator:**

In the year of our Lord 1853,  
A war occurred right on the Black Sea.  
It was Russia against Allies.  
Now, to call them by name:  
France, Turkey, England, Sardinia.  
Yes, sir, they all came.

#### **Florence:**

In this horrible war,  
Soldiers sickened and died—  
Not only from battle  
But from staying inside.  
The hospitals—eeww!

They were rotten and rank  
And filthy and nasty  
And, frankly, they stank!

#### **Miss Social Opinion:** *(taking Florence by the arm and walking with her)*

But Florence, my dear,  
Just what would you do?  
No "nice" ladies work there.  
From them, take your cue!

#### **Florence:** *(removing Miss Opinion's arm and walking back to center stage)*

Hmmph!  
Well, we'll just see about that!

#### **Narrator:**

Florence Nightingale traveled away on the sea  
To go to Crimea, bringing help rapidly.  
And with her she brought  
Other ladies to nurse.  
So the soldiers got better  
Instead of much worse!

#### **Soldiers Chorus:** *(All together, with enthusiasm and much waving of casts and bandages)*

Yay, Yay, she's got the stuff!  
Yay, Yay, Florence is tough!

#### **Doctor Disapproval:** *(moving to Center Stage)*

Ahem!  
Wait! Stop! Don't! No!  
You ladies must leave now!  
You ladies must go! *(pointing off stage)*

#### **Florence:** *(moving in front of the Doctor)*

S'cuse me, sir, really!  
We're here now to work  
And help all these wounded  
To health, make them perk!

#### **Soldiers Chorus:** *(All together, with enthusiasm and much waving of casts and bandages)*

Yay, Yay, she's got the stuff!  
Yay, Yay, Florence is tough!

#### **Doctor Disapproval:** *(stepping to the side of Florence, gesturing to her)*

Well, who would have "thunk" it?  
These ladies have made  
Such radical changes—  
Many lives have been saved!

#### **Soldiers Chorus:** *(All together, with enthusiasm and much waving of casts and bandages)*

Yay, Yay, she's got the stuff!  
Yay, Yay, Florence is tough!

#### **Narrator:**

The "Lady with the Lamp,"  
As she's known now by all,  
Changed hospitals greatly,  
A complete overhaul.

Now our story is told,  
Of blood, guts, and gore,  
Of dear Florence Nightingale,  
And the Crimean War.