

I walk in two worlds. I am Māori first but was raised in christian schools. Here I learned to read and write English. As a young woman I was at home with both groups who made up Aotearoa New Zealand. I had many **suitors**, but only one became my husband, blessing me with 14 children. Upon his passing I re-married, having 3 more children near Lake Tarawera, home to the magnificent pink and white terraces.



I am part of the Tūhourangi tribe, guardians of the ‘Eighth Wonder of the World.’ My beauty, education and ability to speak both languages of our country made me a world famous guide. I became the first tourist operator in the country, earning money for my tribe. By the 1880’s people travelled from as far away as Europe. The terraces were fed from a hot spring at the top, water dropping 30 metres down the sloped terraces to the lake. It was the pink terraces further down however that they enjoyed the most. Here, clothes were discarded and their white bodies soaked in the warm waters that had cooled on their passage down the slope.

The memories of the night my house shook are still vivid. Many of my tribe took shelter with me. The sky filled with ash. When we emerged we found that the terraces were gone, **lost** beneath Lake Tarawera.

**Questions (look in the text for highlight clues!)**

- 1) How many children did Sophia have?
- 2) What does Sophia mean when she states she walks in two worlds?
- 3) What were three things that made Sophia a world famous tour guide?
- 4) Where did the hot water come from?
  - a) A spring.
  - b) Lake Tarawera.
  - c) We do not know.
- 5) Which was the lower of the two terraces?
- 6) Explain why it was only possible to soak in the pink terraces, not the white?
- 7) Can you explain (using Sophia’s description) why the terraces were **lost**?

**Local economies and trade**

Produced by Paul Tucker@Orewa College (2022)

**New Words (look in the text for highlight clues!)**

What do you think the word **suitors** means in the story? Does it mean:

- a) People wanting to dress Sophia.
- b) Men wanting to marry Sophia.
- c) Children of Sophia.

**A Naming Word used instead of a Noun (Pronouns)**

For each sentence find the word that replaces a noun.

- 1) I married twice.
- 2) She was world famous.
- 3) It was funny to see them bathing.



*This is Sophia pictured around 1895. After the terraces disappeared she moved to Rotorua, continuing as a guide. She helped other Māori women become guides, bringing in money and raising the profile of women in society.*