

About the Poets

H W Longfellow

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882), the great American poet, was a professor at Harvard. His great fame began with the publication of his first volume of poems 'Voices of the Night' in 1839, which included "A Psalm of Life," one of nineteenth century's best-loved poems. His other collections include Ballads (1841), Evangeline (1847), Hiawatha (1855), The Courtship of Miles Standish (1858) and Tales of a Wayside Inn (1863).

Longfellow was the most popular poet of his age and during his lifetime he became a 'national institution'. "His work was musical, mildly romantic, high-minded, and flavoured with sentimental preachment" (Norton Anthology of American Literature).

V K Gokak

VK Gokak, a famous novelist and poet in Kannada and a professor of English, wrote and published poetry in English as well. This poem expresses Gokak's admiration for the English language. He brings out the efficacy of English words in delightful and poignant similes. How the language across the seas changed our hearts is shown here.

Walt Whitman

Walt Whitman was born in Long Island, in the United States of America in 1819, He was the second son of Walter Whitman, a house-builder, and Louisa Van Velsor. He started his career as an office boy in a law office in Brooklyn at the age of eleven and then became a typesetter's apprentice in a number of print shops. At the age of twelve Whitman began to learn the printer's trade, and fell in love with the written word. Largely self-taught, he read voraciously, becoming acquainted with the Bible and the works of Homer, Dante, and Shakespeare.

In 1836, at the age of 17, he began his career as a teacher in Long Island. He continued to teach until 1841, when he turned to journalism as a full-time career. He founded a weekly newspaper, Long Islander. During 1850 – 1855 he focused, on his own poetic work "Leaves of Grass", and continued to write. He died at the age of 72 in 1892.

Annie Louisa Walker

Annie Louisa Walker (1836-1907), British-born novelist, children's playwright and poet, was educated in Ontario, where she and her sisters operated a school for ladies. Walker published poetry widely in newspapers on both sides of the border before collecting them

in 'Leaves from the Backwoods' in 1861-62. She returned to England to work for her cousin, Margaret Oliphant, a well-known novelist, and edited her 'Autobiography and Letters' in 1899, under her married name, Mrs. Harry Coghill. She collected her poetic output in 'Oak and Maple: English and Canadian Verses.'

1] Who among the following is a Bengali poet and has won Nobel Prize for Literature in 1913?

- (A) Mahasweta Devi
- (B) Rabindranath Tagore**
- (C) Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay
- (D) Sunil Gangopadhyay

Explanation:

Rabindranath Tagore was born on May 7, 1861, Calcutta, India. A Bengali poet, short-story writer, song composer, playwright, essayist and painter. In 1913, he became the first non-European to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature. He was also the creative artist of early India.

2] David Herbert Lawrence occupies a unique position among the leading of England.

- (A) Modernist writers**
- (B) Classical writers
- (C) Victorian writers
- (D) Neo-classical writers

Explanation:

D H Lawrence was born on 11th September 1885, Eastwood, Nottinghamshire, England.

His Genre is **Modernism**. So the answer is considerable option A (Modernist Writers).

3] Rabindranath Tagore won the _____ for his 'Gitanjali'.

- (A) Washington Prize
- (B) Man Booker International Prize
- (C) Nobel Prize**
- (D) American Book Award

Explanation:

His biggest notable award is **Nobel Prize** in Literature(1913). He was the first non-European to win the Nobel Prize.

4] Pulitzer prize for literature was awarded for the poem "American Civil War, John Brown's Body". 'Who wrote this poem?

- (A) Rabindranath Tagore
- (B) Henry Wordsworth Longfellow
- (C) William Wordsworth
- (D) **Stephen Vincent Benet**

Explanation:

Many Authors wrote poems about American Civil War. But this 'American civil war, John Brown's Body' was released in the year 1928. For which, Stephen Vincent Benet, American Poet won a 'Pulitzer Prize' in 1929.

5] In which year did H.W. Longfellow publish his first volume of poems?

- (A) in 1838
- (B) **in 1839**
- (C) in 1837
- (D) in 1836

Explanation:

His First volume of poems are 'Voices of the Night' in 1839, which included "A Psalm of Life," one of nineteenth century's best-loved poems. His other collections include Ballads (1841), Evangeline (1847), Hiawatha (1855), The Courtship of Miles Standish (1858) and Tales of a Wayside Inn (1863). But the first poem of the volume was published in the year **1839**.

6] Who was the only poet honoured with the title "Poet Laureate of Michigan".

- (A) William Wordsworth
- (B) Edgar Allen Poe
- (C) Kahl Gibran
- (D) **Edgar A Guest**

Explanation:

Edgar A Guest was known as the **People's Poet** in first half of 20th Century. He was the first Poet Laureate(i.e; poet officially appointed by a government or institution) of Michigan

7] Tagore won the Nobel prize for literature in

- (A) 1947
- (B) 1920
- (C) **1913**
- (D) 1964

Explanation:

Rabindranath Tagore won the **Noble Prize** for his 'Gitanjali'. His biggest notable award is **Nobel Prize** in Literature(1913). He was the first non-European to win the Nobel Prize.

8] 'The National Anthem' was written by

- (A) SundaramPillai
- (B) **Rabindranath Tagore**
- (C) Thiru V. Ka
- (D) NamakkalKavignar

Explanation:

Jana Gana Mana – Nationa Anthem of India, was wriiten & composed by the poet **Rabindranath Tagore** in 1950.

9] Walt Whitman, a famous poet, started his career as an

- (A) Typist
- (B) **Office boy**
- (C) Clerk
- (D) Teacher

Explanation:

Walt Whitman started his career as an **office boy** in a law office in Brooklyn at the age of eleven

10] The poet who made a bridge between The Victorian Age and The modernist movement was

- (A) Walt Whitman
- (B) **Thomas Hardy**
- (C) Robert Frost
- (D) William Shakeapeare

Explanation:

The first decades of the 20th century was **Thomas Hardy** (1840 – 1928). He was not a modernist, he was an important bridge between the Victorian era and the 20th century (Modernist).

11] Annie Louisa walker was educated in

- (A) Kannada
- (C) India
- (B) France
- (D) Ontario

Explanation:

Annie Louisa Walker was educated in Ontario, where she and her sisters operated a school for ladies.

12] Walt Whitman started his career as an office boy in a law office in Brooklyn at the age of

- (A) Twenty
- (B) **Eleven**
- (C) Twenty Five
- (D) Fifteen

Explanation:

Walt Whitman started his career as an office boy in a law office in Brooklyn at the age of **Eleven**.

13] Who wrote the sonnet 'composed upon Westminster Bridge'?

- (A) William Shakespeare
- (B) **William Wordsworth**
- (C) John Donne
- (D) John Keats

Explanation:

Upon Westminster Bridge (1802) was composed by **William Wordsworth**. The sonnet is about the Nature of London viewing from the Westminster bridge in early morning.

14] When was John Masfield born?

- (A) **1st June 1878**
- (B) 1st June 1868

- (C) 1st June 1888
- (D) 1st June 1858

Explanation:

John Edward Masefield was an English poet and writer. Born on **1st June 1878**, Ledbury, Herefordshire, England.

15] Where did the renowned children's writer 'Ruskin Bond' spend most of his life time?

- (A) Nainital hill station of Mussoorie
- (B) Gun hill station of Mussoorie
- (C) **Garhwali hill station of Mussoorie**
- (D) Cloud end hill station of Mussoorie

Explanation:

Ruskin Bond's Hometown is **Uttarakhand**. His favourite destination is Puducherry. He used to visit mostly Garhwali hill in Mussoorie. Most of his works are influenced by life in the Hill stations of the Himalayas.

16] V.K. Gokak was a professor of—

- (A) Telugu
- (B) **English**
- (C) Tamil
- (D) Kannada

Explanation:

V.K. Gokak was a famous novelist and poet in Kannada and a professor of English who wrote and published poetry in English as well.

17] Which state does the poet, Kamala Das belong to

- (A) Tamilnadu
- (B) **Kerala**
- (C) Maharashtra
- (D) Karnataka

Explanation:

Kamala Das was a leading Indian Malayalam poet & Author from Kerala.

Kamala Das was also popularly known as **Madhavikutty**.

18] Select the correct answer to fill the blank from the options given below:

The mother tongue of Rabindranath Tagore is

- (A) Oriya
- (B) Tamil
- (C) **Bengali**
- (D) Hindi

Explanation:

Rabindranath Tagore was born in Calcutta, West Bengal. He is a well-known Bengali and English Poet. Thus his mother language is Bengali. He re-shaped Bengali literature and music in 19th century.

19] During his life time, H.W. Longfellow became a---

- (A) **'National Institution'**
- (B) 'Stylish Institution'
- (C) 'Popular Institution'
- (D) 'Global Institution'

Explanation:

Longfellow was the most popular poet of his age and during his lifetime he became a 'national institution'. "His work was musical, mildly romantic, high-minded, and flavoured with sentimental preachment"

20] Of the following poets, who was known as the 'People's Poet' for having contributed 11,000 poems to English Literature?

- (A) Stephen Vincent Benet
- (B) **Edgar Albert Guest**
- (C) F. Joanna
- (D) Rudyard Kipling

Explanation:

Edgar Albert Guest, born on 20th August 1881, Birmingham, England. He was famous in the first half of the 20th century and became known as the **People's Poet**. Most of his poems often had an inspirational and optimistic view of everyday life. Guest was the only poet have been awarded the title 'Poet Laureate of Michigan'.

21] Shakespeare's sonnets are -- in number.

- (A) 159

- (B) 156
- (C) 134
- (D) 154**

Explanation:

There are totally **154 sonnets** and the major themes of these sonnets include the destructive power of time, the permanence of poetry (art), triangular love and the analysis of amorous emotion (love).

22] Rabindranath Tagore's works are originally written in

- (A) Hindi
- (B) Bengali**
- (C) English
- (D) Kannada

Explanation:

As Rabindranath Tagore was Bengali and his mother tongue is Bengali. Most of his works are based on Bengali. But he was also famous English Poet in 19th century. He was the first non-European to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature.

23] Which one of the following statement is correct?

- (A) V.K Gokak is a Telugu poet and novelist
- (B) V.K. Gokak is a Kannada poet and novelist**
- (C) V.K. Gokak is a Marathi poet and novelist
- (D) V.K. Gokak is a Gujarathi poet and novelist

Explanation:

VK Gokak, a famous novelist and poet in Kannada and a professor of English, wrote and published poetry in English as well. This poem expresses Gokak's admiration for the English language.

24] Choose the option that completes the given sentence.

Rabindranath Tagore was awarded the Nobel prize for his work

- (A) Galpaguccha
- (B) Chitra
- (C) Binodini
- (D) Gitanjali**

Explanation:

Rabindranath Tagore won the **Noble Prize** for his 'Gitanjali'. His biggest notable award is **Nobel Prize** in Literature(1913). He was the first non-European to win the Nobel Prize.

25] The State U.R. Ananthamoorthy was born, brought up and lived in till his death was_____

- (A) Tamil Nadu
- (B) Karnataka**
- (C) Bengal
- (D) Andra Pradesh

Explanation:

Udupi Rajagopalacharya Ananthamurthy(U R Ananthamoorthy) was a writer and critic in the Kannada Language. He was born in 1932, Mysore and died in 2014, Bangalore, Karnataka.

26] Which state does the poet V.K. Gokak belong to?

- (A) Uttar Pradesh
- (B) Bihar
- (C) Haryana
- (D) Karnataka**

Explanation:

VK Gokak, a famous novelist and poet in Kannada and a professor of English, wrote and published poetry in English as well.

Vinayaka Krishna Gokak – **V. K. Gokak** was born on 1909, Karnataka, India.

27] When was Rabindranath Tagore born?

- (A) 18 May 1861
- (B) 7 May 1861**
- (C) 17 May 1816
- (D) 17 June 1861

Explanation:

Rabindranath Tagore was born on May 7, 1861, Calcutta, India. A Bengali poet, short-story writer, song composer, playwright, essayist and painter.

28] The Poet Jack Prelutsky was born in

- (A) New York
- (B) Brooklyn**
- (C) Lebanon
- (D) United States

Explanation:

The Poet **Jack Prelutsky** was born on 1940 in Brooklyn, New York, America. His works are on short stories and collection of literary work which is more than 50.

29] Identify the poet who is not an Indian.

- (A) Famida Y. Basheer
- (B) Kamala Surayya
- (C) V.K. Gokak
- (D) James Kirkup**

Explanation:

Option A, B & C are Indian poet and writers. But option D – **James Kirkup, English Poet, Translator and Travel Writer**. He won Altantic award for Literature – 1950.

30] Annie Louisa Walker was educated in—

- (A) Delhi
- (B) Moscow
- (C) London
- (D) Ontario**

Explanation:

Annie Louisa Walker (1836-1907), British-born novelist, children's playwright and poet, was educated in Ontario, where she and her sisters operated a school for ladies.