

5. Renaissance Lyrics Quiz



1. When was the Printing Press first introduced in England by William Caxton?

- a) 1476
- b) 1467
- c) 1576
- d) 1567

2. Which dynasty brought political stability to England from 1485 to 1603?

- a) Stuart
- b) Tudor
- c) Hannover
- d) Windsor

3. Henry VII reigned over England during which period?

- a) 1485 - 1509
- b) 1485 - 1490
- c) 1485 - 1520
- d) 1485 - 1515

4. Mary I reigned from 1553 to 1558. Who succeeded her?

- a) Mary Queen of Scots
- b) Elizabeth II
- c) Elizabeth I
- d) Edward VI

5. Who was Poet Laureate to Henry VIII?

- a) Edmund Spenser
- b) Philip Sidney
- c) Thomas Wyatt
- d) John Skelton

6. Thomas Wyatt was particularly influenced by sonneteers from which country?

- a) Holland
- b) Italy**
- c) Spain
- d) France

7. Who was Thomas Wyatt's protégé?

- a) Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey
- b) Philip Sidney
- c) William Shakespeare
- d) Ben Jonson

8. Who was the publisher of the first printed anthology of English poetry, "Miscellany" (1557)?

- a) Richard Bottel
- b) Richard Tottel**
- c) Richard Mottel
- d) Richard Pottel

9. Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, was the first English poet to publish blank verse in his translation of the second and fourth books of which Latin epic poem?

- a) Walther von Châtillon's *Alexandreis*
- b) Publius Papinius Statius' *Achilleid*
- c) Publius Vergilius Maro's *Aeneid***
- d) Joseph of Exeter's *Antiocheis*

10. Why was Henry Howard sentenced to execution by Henry VIII?

- a) Adultery
- b) Treason**
- c) Alchemy
- d) Blasphemy

11. During the reign of which monarch did "High" Renaissance Poetry flourish?

- a) Henry VII
- b) Mary I
- c) Henry VIII
- d) Elizabeth I**

12. Who of the following was not part of the group of “High” Renaissance poets?

- a) **Sir Thomas Wyatt**
- b) Philip Sidney
- c) Edmund Spenser
- d) William Shakespeare

13. Which is the title of the first work ever written in Spenserian stanza?

- a) The Faerie Countesse
- b) The Faerie Princesse
- c) The Faerie Godmothere
- d) **The Faerie Queene**

14. Which of the following is a typical rhyme scheme of the Petrarchan sonnet?

- a) A sestet (aba aba) and octet (cddc cddc or cdde cdde)
- b) **An octet (abba abba) and sestet (cde cde or cdc cdc)**
- c) abab cdcd efef gg
- d) abab bcbc cdcd ee

15. What is the typical rhyme scheme of the English or Shakespearian sonnet?

- a) abab bcbc cdcd ee
- b) **abab cdcd efef gg**
- c) abba cddc effe gg
- d) abbc cdde effg aa

16. What is the typical rhyme scheme of the Spenserian sonnet?

- a) abab cdcd efef gg
- b) abab bcbc cdcd aa
- c) **abab bcbc cdcd ee**
- d) abba cddc effe ff

17. What is the name of an extended poetic treatment of a single theme?

- a) A sonnet circle
- b) A sonnet round
- c) A sonnet series
- d) **A sonnet cycle**

18. What is the name of a sonnet series linked by repeating the last verse of one sonnet in the first verse of the next, until the circle is closed by using the first verse of the first sonnet as the last verse of the last sonnet?

- a) A sonnet band
- b) **A sonnet crown**
- c) A sonnet throne
- d) A sonnet cap

19. Henry Howard and Sir Thomas Wyatt both based sonnets on which of Petrarch's poems about unrequited love?

- a) Rime 110
- b) Rime 120
- c) Rime 130
- d) Rime 140**

20. Wyatt frequently used an exaggerated figure of speech in which intellectual cleverness figured at least as largely as real emotion. What is the name of this device?

- a) Conceit**
- b) Conceal
- c) Concave
- d) Comparison

21. Words from which semantic field can be found in the fourth verse of Wyatt's "The long love that in my thought doth harbour"?

- a) Mythological
- b) Animal
- c) Military**
- d) Religious

22. "Sweet is the death that taketh end by love" is the last verse of which of the following sonnets?

- a) Sir Thomas Wyatt's "The long love that in my thought doth harbour"
- b) Henry Howard's "Love, that doth reign and live within my thought"**
- c) Edmund Spenser's "Lyke as a ship that through the Ocean wyde"
- d) Philip Sidney's "Loving in truth, and fain in verse my love to show"

23. What do Wyatt's following verses refer to?

*Into my face presseth with bold pretense
And therein campeth, spreading his banner.*

- a) A blush**
- b) A punch
- c) A rash
- d) A kiss

24. In which year were Wyatt's "The long love that in my thought doth harbour" and Howard's "Love, that doth reign and live within my thought" both published?

- a) 1556
- b) 1557**
- c) 1558
- d) 1559

25. The first verse of Edmund Spenser's Sonnet 34 ("Lyke as a ship that through the Ocean wyde") is an example of which rhetorical device?

- a) Simile**
- b) Metaphor
- c) Epithet
- d) Allusion

26. What would be an accurate modern translation of the word "carefull", which appears in the penultimate verse of Spenser's sonnet 34?

- a) Angry
- b) Cautious
- c) Worried**
- d) Sad

27. In which of the verses of Spenser's sonnet 34 is the problem of unrequited love resolved?

- a) Final couplet
- b) Final quintet
- c) Final octet
- d) Final sestet**

28. What does the reference to a storm in the ninth verse of Spenser's sonnet 34 show us?

- a) Rage
- b) Pessimism
- c) Optimism**
- d) Destruction

29. In which of the following sonnets is the female protagonist given a voice?

- a) Edmund Spenser's sonnet 75**
- b) Philip Sidney's Astrophil and Stella 7
- c) Edmund Spenser's sonnet 34
- d) Philip Sidney's Astrophil and Stella 1

30. In sonnet 75, the woman's name is written upon the "strand". What is a "strand"?

- a) Parchment
- b) Stone
- c) Shore**
- d) Tree bark

31. Edmund Spenser's sonnets 34 and 75 were published in 1595 as part of which collection?

- a) Amoretto
- b) Amaretto
- c) Amaretti
- d) Amoretti**

32. What was the name of Edmund Spenser's second wife, who inspired many of his sonnets?

- a) Elizabeth Doyle
- b) Elizabeth Boyle**
- c) Elizabeth Coyle
- d) Elizabeth Foyle

33. Spenser's sonnet 75 demonstrates the influence of which philosophy in Renaissance poetry?

- a) Neonomianism
- b) Nominalism
- c) Neovitalism
- d) Neoplatonism**

34. Which of the following is said to have had an important influence on Edmund Spenser's works?

- a) Ovid's Metamorphoses
- b) Ariosto's Orlando Furioso
- c) Heroic epic tales of Charlemagne
- d) All of the above**

35. The final couplet of Spenser's sonnet 75 makes reference to what?

- a) The author's secret sorrow
- b) The apocalypse**
- c) A summer's day
- d) The woman's beauty

36. How does Spenser's use of the "volta" differ from that of the Italian sonneteers, who tended introduce a new idea in verse 9?

a) Although he often starts verse 9 with "But" or "Yet", the real turn normally occurs in the final couplet

b) Although he often starts verse 9 with "But" or "Yet", the real turn normally occurs in the final quintet

c) Although he often starts verse 9 with "But" or "Yet", the real turn normally occurs in the final verse

d) Although he often starts verse 9 with "But" or "Yet", the real turn normally occurs in the final quartet

37. In the following verse from Spenser's sonnet 75, what does the word "rare" mean?

*My verse your virtues **rare** shall eternize*

a) Strange

b) Never

c) Extraordinary

d) Bizarre

38. "Defence of Poesie", by Sir Philip Sidney, is considered the first work of literary criticism in English literature. What is the text also known as?

a) An Apology for Poetry

b) A Vindication of Poetry

c) In Support of Poetry

d) An Excuse for Poetry

39. In what year was the MS. of "The Defence of Poesie" published for the first time?

a) 1595

b) 1472

c) 1500

d) 1600

40. In the following phrase from "The Defence of Poesy", who or what is the referent of "her"?

Her world is brazen, the poets only deliver a golden (956-7)

a) The moon

b) The poet's lover

c) Nature

d) Artemis, the Greek goddess of the hunt

41. Which word is missing in the following phrase from “The Defence of Poesy”?

Poetry is an art of imitation, for so Aristotle termeth it in the word

- a) Logos
- b) Mimesis**
- c) Anamnesis
- d) Diairesis

42. In “The Defence of Poesy”, Sidney states that literature communicates deep and important truths through what?

- a) Lies**
- b) Paradoxes
- c) Biblical references
- d) Facts and figures

43. What is Sidney’s standpoint on the debate over whether art needs social commitment?

- a) Art exists solely for art’s sake
- b) Aesthetic contemplation should be balanced with morality in art**
- c) Art should provide moral grounding and disregard aesthetics
- d) None of the above

44. Who is thought to be the inspiration for “Stella” of Sidney’s “Astrophil and Stella” sonnet sequence?

- a) Penelope Devereux, Lady Rich**
- b) Penelope Debereux, Lady Rich
- c) Penelope Depereux, Lady Rich
- d) Penelope Delereux, Lady Rich

45. When was *Astrophil and Stella* published?

- a) 1430
- b) 1591**
- c) 1600
- d) 1491

46. In the second stanza of *Astrophil and Stella 1*, what does the reference to “turning others’ leaves” mean?

- a) Starting afresh
- b) Getting inspiration from other authors**
- c) Gathering leaves in the autumn
- d) Stealing books

47. The term “feet” in the verse “And others feet still seemed but strangers in my way” from the third stanza of Astrophil and Stella 1, is an example of what?

- a) Simile
- b) Paradox
- c) Homonym**
- d) Chiasmus

48. Which word is missing from the last verse of Astrophil and Stella 1?

Fool, said my Muse to me, look in thy, and write

- a) Soul
- b) Mind
- c) Self
- d) Heart**

49. What is paradoxical about the poet’s frustrations in *Astrophil and Stella 1*?

- a) The poet describes his difficulties to express himself using Italian conventions (“others’ feet”), even though the poem itself follows a classical Italianate structure**
- b) The poet knows that his love will never be requited so his efforts to get the woman’s attention are all in vain
- c) The poet makes reference to a “muse”, when Renaissance poets did not believe in inspiration from external sources
- d) Although words come flooding to the poet, their meaning is not clear to him

50. In the final couplet of *Astrophil and Stella 7*, what reason is given for the black colour of Stella’s eyes?

- a) For aesthetic effect (her black eyes complement her fair skin)
- b) To protect her from the dazzling sunlight
- c) To show nature’s great power by making black seem beautiful
- d) To honour the deaths of the men who have died for her love**