Poetry Firsts and Discoveries

Poetry · Practice Test · 8 Questions

1. Who is widely recognized as the world's first named author in recorded history, known for writing ancient poems and hymns?

A) Enheduanna
B) Sappho
C) Homer
D) Valmiki

2. What is widely considered by historians to be the world's oldest surviving major epic poem?

A) The Odyssey
B) The Epic of Gilgamesh
C) Beowulf
D) The Mahabharata

3. In which country did the traditional 5-7-5 syllable poetic form known as haiku originate?

A) China
B) Korea
C) Japan
D) Vietnam

4. Which 13th-century Italian poet is credited with inventing the sonnet poetic form?

A) Dante Alighieri
B) Francesco Petrarca
C) Giacomo da Lentini
D) Giovanni Boccaccio

5. Who was the first African American poet to publish a book of poetry in 1773?

A) Maya Angelou
B) Phillis Wheatley
C) Gwendolyn Brooks
D) Langston Hughes

6. Who was appointed as the very first official Poet Laureate of England by royal decree in 1668?

A) William Shakespeare
B) John Milton
C) John Dryden
D) William Wordsworth

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7. Which English writer popularized the five-line light verse form called the limerick in his 1846 book 'A Book of Nonsense'?

A) Lewis Carroll
B) Edward Lear
C) Roald Dahl
D) Robert Louis Stevenson

8. Who was the first African American person to win the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry, awarded in 1950?

A) Gwendolyn Brooks
B) Alice Walker
C) Toni Morrison
D) Audre Lorde

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