

Phillis Wheatley Test

1. As a young girl Phillis went to America _____.
 - A. with her mother and father
 - B. on a slave ship
 - C. on her way to England
 - D. because of the opportunities there
2. When she arrived in America she _____.
 - A. was wearing a piece of carpet for clothing
 - B. started looking for Mrs. Wheatley
 - C. cried because she was happy
 - D. didn't want to leave the ship
3. Mrs. Wheatley named the child _____.
 - A. after her sister
 - B. for a famous poet
 - C. for the name of the ship
 - D. Mary
4. Mary taught Phillis _____.
 - A. knitting and sewing
 - B. math and French
 - C. how to clean the house
 - D. literature and Latin
5. Phillis lived during the time of _____.
 - A. the American Revolution
 - B. World War 1
 - C. the Crimean War
 - D. the Holocaust
6. People were amazed because _____.
 - A. Phillis was so strong
 - B. she could do math calculations in her head
 - C. they didn't think an African-American could excel
 - D. she was such a good singer
7. The Wheatley family _____.
 - A. mistreated Phillis
 - B. made her eat by herself all the time
 - C. didn't want her to learn
 - D. treated her as one of the family
8. She enjoyed writing _____.
 - A. songs about Africa
 - B. poetry
 - C. essays about the war
 - D. letters to her mother back home
9. Her poem "To His Excellency..." was written about _____.
 - A. George Washington
 - B. King George
 - C. Martin Luther King Jr.
 - D. Benjamin Franklin
10. When her manuscripts were sent to England _____.
 - A. everyone applauded her talent
 - B. they were returned unopened
 - C. people didn't believe she had written them
 - D. they invited her to come to see them in person

11. A group of _____ authenticated Phillis's work.

- A. four Englishmen
- B. six slaves
- C. ten poets
- D. eighteen American judges

12. They did this by _____.

- A. reading her poems aloud
- B. questioning her
- C. talking to Mrs. Wheatley
- D. asking her to write another poem

13. When they were sure she was the author of the poems they _____.

- A. went to England to vouch for her
- B. called the skeptics by phone
- C. mailed a letter
- D. sent an email

14. Phillis ordered _____ copies of the book that was being printed.

- A. 10
- B. 100
- C. 3000
- D. 300

15. Phillis had to leave England early because _____.

- A. Susanna Wheatley became ill
- B. the English people wanted her to leave
- C. she became very sick
- D. one of her children needed her

16. After the Wheatleys died Phillis _____.

- A. went to work for another family
- B. returned to Africa
- C. married John Peters
- D. inherited their money

17. Her husband ended up in prison because he _____.

- A. killed a man
- B. owed money he could not repay
- C. stole money from his employer
- D. abused his family

18. Phillis died at the age of _____.

- A. eighteen
- B. fifty-six
- C. ninety
- D. thirty-one

19. _____ is responsible for preserving her poems.

- A. Dr. Benjamin Rush
- B. Susanna Wheatley
- C. Mary Wheatley
- D. Benjamin Franklin

20. Much of her work _____.

- A. was burned in a fire
- B. was eaten by mice
- C. ended up in private collections
- D. was bought by George Washington