

Bing Crosby Guided Reading & Multiple Choice

Guided Reading: *Fill in the blanks below to create complete sentences.*

1. When young Harry Crosby Jr. was six, he earned the nickname “_____”.
2. After high school, Bing Crosby sang with _____ Orchestra for \$150 a week.
3. Bing quickly became known for his distinctive _____ talents.
4. Bing Crosby’s first feature film was titled _____.
5. Starting in 1936, Bing began hosting the _____ on the NBC Radio Network.
6. Crosby’s World War II broadcasts were heard by German troops who began calling him “_____”.
7. During World War II, Crosby boosted the morale of many soldiers and helped them feel a little closer to _____.
8. Bing Crosby’s most famous recording is the song “_____”.
9. Crosby won the Academy Award for Best Actor for his role in _____.
10. Bing Crosby died on October 14, _____.

Vocabulary: *Match each word with its correct definition. Consider how the word is used in the lesson. This might help you define each term. Use a dictionary to help if necessary.*

- a. orchestra
- b. jazz
- c. baritone

- d. abroad
- e. nominate

11. _____ in a foreign country
12. _____ a group of performers using a variety of instruments (usually stringed), which frequently accompany operas, or other live productions
13. _____ a male singing voice in the intermediate range between tenor and bass
14. _____ to propose or suggest someone for an honor or award
15. _____ a style of dance music (usually upbeat in tempo) arranged for large bands

Summarize: Answer the following questions in the space provided. Attempt to respond in a complete sentence for each question. Be sure to use correct capitalization and punctuation!

1. Which two actors rank ahead of Bing Crosby as the most successful of all time?
2. What radio program did Bing Crosby begin hosting in 1936?
3. When did Bing Crosby appear in his first feature film?
4. Where was Bing Crosby born?
5. Why is the song "White Christmas" significant?
6. How did so many Germans become fans of Bing Crosby?

Multiple Choice: Select the choice that completes the statement or answers the question.

1. _____ Which of the following best summarizes Bing Crosby's early career?
 - a. Bing struggled for years and years before he finally received his big break as an older performer.
 - b. Bing found quick success, performing with Paul Whiteman's Orchestra and then the Rhythm Boys.
 - c. Bing had not even considered singing as a career and was discovered by accident.
 - d. Bing actually wanted to be a piano player, but eventually found success as a singer.
2. _____ Which of the following statements is false?
 - a. Bing Crosby's first #1 hit was a jazz version of "Ol' Man River".
 - b. Bing Crosby made his solo debut in September of 1931.
 - c. Bing Crosby entranced audiences with his high tenor voice.
 - d. Bing Crosby had 10 of the top 50 songs by the end of 1931.
3. _____ Which of the following best summarizes how Bing Crosby supported troops during World War II?
 - a. His radio broadcasts were transmitted to the troops, and he performed live for those stationed in Europe.
 - b. He donated large amounts of his own personal fortune to buy uniforms and boots.
 - c. He started a nationwide drive and managed to get millions of pounds of scrap metal donated to the war effort.
 - d. On his radio program, he openly encouraged efforts such as victory gardens and rationing.
4. _____ Which of the following statements is an opinion?
 - a. Bing Crosby recorded more than 1,700 songs in his career.
 - b. "White Christmas" is the best-selling song of all time.
 - c. "White Christmas" is the best song Bing Crosby ever recorded.
 - d. Bing Crosby had 41 songs reach #1 on the popular music charts.
5. _____ Which of the following best describes how Bing Crosby is remembered today?
 - a. Crosby has largely been forgotten, except for film and music historians.
 - b. Crosby is remembered only for "White Christmas" and the rest of his work has been forgotten.
 - c. Crosby was nearly forgotten, but has experienced a surge of popularity in recent years.
 - d. Crosby has remained in the hearts and minds of people, and his movies and songs are thought of as classics.

