

11. Eighteenth-Century Poetry Quiz



1. In 1757, Thomas Gray was offered the post of Poet Laureate, but he rejected the honour. True or false?

- a) True
- b) False

2. In which year was Thomas Gray's *Elegy Written in a Country Courtyard* first published?

- a) 1751
- b) 1761
- c) 1771
- d) 1781

3. *Elegy Written in a Country Courtyard* is written in rhymed quatrains. True or false?

- a) True
- b) False

4. What is the name of Gray's friend, who popularised *Elegy Written in a Country Courtyard* among London literary circles?

- a) Horace Jenson
- b) Horace Walpole
- c) Horace Smith
- d) Horace Nelson

5. Even though *Elegy Written in a Country Courtyard* can be classified as a pastoral elegy, the poem lacks many of the standard features of this genre. Which of the following cannot be found in the text?

- a) An invocation
- b) Mourners
- c) Shepherds
- d) All of the above

6. The narrator of *Elegy Written in a Country Courtyard* is cold and distant, like most Augustan narrators. True or false?

- a) True
- b) False**

7. Fill in the gaps from the following verses of *Elegy Written in a Country Courtyard*.

Full many a of purest ray serene,
The dark unfathom'd caves of ocean bear:
Full many a is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness on the desert air.

(gem, flower)

8. Gray frequently uses a poetic device whereby letters or sounds within certain words are omitted (e.g. "glimm'ring"). What is this device called?

- a) Simile
- b) Symploce
- c) Syncope**
- d) Synecdoche

9. In *The Deserted Village*, by Oliver Goldsmith, rural life is idealised. True or false?

- a) True**
- b) False

10. In *The Village*, by George Crabbe, rural life is idealised. True or false?

- a) True
- b) False**