

## George Harrison Quiz

WORKSHEET A

1. George Harrison was born in
  - a. 1940
  - b. 1941
  - c. 1942
  - d. 1943
  
2. Which Beatle was not an original member of the band?
  - a. John Lennon
  - b. Paul McCartney
  - c. George Harrison
  - d. Ringo Starr
  
3. Which stringed instrument did George Harrison help to popularize in the West?
  - a. koto
  - b. bazouki
  - c. sitar
  - d. mandolin
  
4. How many times was George Harrison married?
  - a. once
  - b. twice
  - c. three times
  - d. never
  
5. In 1971 George Harrison organised a charity concert for the people of
  - a. Bangladesh.
  - b. Ethiopia.
  - c. Vietnam.
  - d. Biafra.
  
6. What did he name his record company?
  - a. Apple
  - b. HandMade
  - c. Dark Horse
  - d. Hari Krishna
  
7. Which song was not a George Harrison composition?
  - a. *Something*
  - b. *My Sweet Lord*
  - c. *Got My Mind Set On You*
  - d. *Imagine*
  
8. Which of these didn't he do?
  - a. race cars
  - b. present a TV programme
  - c. play lead guitar
  - d. produce films
  
9. During the 1980s, Harrison formed a new group called The Traveling Wilburys. Which of the following singers was not in the band?
  - a. Bob Dylan
  - b. Roy Orbison
  - c. Eric Clapton
  - d. Tom Petty
  
10. What happened to him in 1999?
  - a. He was kidnapped.
  - b. He was stabbed.
  - c. He was shot.
  - d. He tried to commit suicide.

# The Quiet Beatle

WORKSHEET B



**G**eorge Harrison, lead guitarist for the Beatles, was known as the quiet Beatle. In truth, he was more modest than quiet, preferring to let both John Lennon and Paul McCartney take centre stage.

Born in Liverpool on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 1943, George was interested in music from childhood. At the age of fifteen he was introduced to John Lennon by his friend Paul McCartney. The three of them played in a band called The Quarry Men, a name which they later changed to The Beatles. Before the band became world-famous, the drummer, Pete Best, was replaced by Ringo Starr.

In the mid-1960s Harrison met and became a pupil of Ravi Shankar, the famous Indian sitar player. Harrison became interested in the music and culture of India as well as the Indian faith of Hinduism. Later Beatles' music was heavily influenced by the eastern music and Harrison played sitar on several numbers.

Frank Sinatra once said that *Something* was the most romantic song ever written. George Harrison had written the song about his wife, Patti Boyd. However, singer and guitarist Eric Clapton was also in love with Patti and, although the three of them were happy in each other's company, she eventually divorced George and married Clapton.

After the Beatles split in 1970, George released a solo album *All Things Must Pass*, which reached No. 1 in the charts and featured the single *My Sweet Lord*, which also went to No. 1. The following year, in 1971, George organized a huge benefit concert in Madison Square Gardens, New York, for the people of Bangladesh. Guest appearances included Ravi Shankar, Eric Clapton and Bob Dylan. In the same year he played on John Lennon's solo single *Imagine* and produced an album for the band Badfinger.

During the 70s, George set up his own record company, Dark Horse Records, and his own film production company, HandMade Films. Increasingly, he took time off performing to concentrate on his other passions; racing cars, producing films and collecting rare books.

Harrison's return to performing earned him the best-selling album of his solo career, *Cloud Nine*, in 1987, which guaranteed the single *Got My Mind Set On You* a No. 1 slot.

The following year, he and his friend Jeff Lynne formed The Traveling Wilburys with Tom Petty, Bob Dylan and Roy Orbison. The supergroup released two platinum-selling albums over the next two years. During the mid 90s, he was diagnosed with throat cancer but managed to overcome it.

In 1999, a man broke into his house and attacked him with a knife. He was stabbed several times but made a full recovery. Shortly afterwards, though, it was revealed that George Harrison's cancer had returned and on November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2001, he finally lost the battle and died. It is understood that, after the funeral, his wife Olivia and son Dhani arranged for his ashes to be scattered in the river Ganges.

George Harrison's work has touched the hearts of millions of fans and his music will continue to bring happiness for many more years to come.