Name: _____ Date: _____

LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA



Read the biography of Lin-Manuel Miranda and answer the comprehension questions using the passage for reference.

Lin-Manuel Miranda (born January 16, 1980) is an award-winning composer, lyricist, actor, and playwright who has reshaped modern theater with his innovative use of hip-hop, rap, and diverse storytelling. He was born in New York City to parents from Puerto Rico and grew up in a bilingual household that celebrated both American and Puerto Rican culture. From a young age, Miranda showed a love for music, theater, and writing, often creating performances for his family.

While studying at Wesleyan University, Miranda began developing In the Heights, a musical that highlighted the experiences of Latino communities in Washington Heights, New York. The show opened on Broadway in 2008 and earned four Tony Awards, including Best Musical and Best Original Score. Its success established Miranda as a powerful new voice in theater who brought underrepresented stories to the stage.

In 2015, Miranda created Hamilton, a revolutionary Broadway musical that tells the life of Alexander Hamilton through hip-hop, R&B, and traditional show tunes. Hamilton became a cultural phenomenon, winning 11 Tony Awards, a Grammy, and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama. It not only changed Broadway but also influenced how younger generations engage with history, politics, and storytelling.

Beyond Broadway, Miranda has contributed music to films such as Moana (2016) and Encanto (2021), with the latter's song "We Don't Talk About Bruno" becoming a global hit. He has won Emmy, Grammy, and Tony Awards, and has also been nominated for an Academy Award. While he does not yet hold the rare "EGOT" status, he is considered one of the most accomplished and influential creators of his generation.

Lin-Manuel Miranda's work emphasizes cultural pride, representation, and creativity. His legacy lies not only in his award-winning musicals but also in his ability to inspire new generations of artists to tell their own stories in bold and imaginative ways.

Use the Image

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 What cultural influences shaped Lin-Manuel Miranda's childhood and early love of music and theater?

2 In what ways did Hamilton transform the way audiences think about history and theater?

3 How does Lin-Manuel Miranda's work encourage representation and inspire future generations of artists?

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