

Name _____

Date _____

Maya Angelou & Resilience - Answer Key

Read each question and circle the correct answer.

1. As a child, Maya Angelou

A. faced racism and prejudice.

B. stopped speaking for many years.

C. went back and forth between homes.

☒ D. all of the above

2. The name "Maya" came from

☒ A. a childhood nickname.

B. her favorite children's book.

C. her mother's side of the family.

D. a popular song from the 1940s.

3. Why did Angelou stop speaking for five years?

A. She didn't like the sound of her voice.

☒ B. She was afraid of the power of her words.

C. She wanted to become a professional singer.

D. She was ashamed that she had no formal education.

4. How did Mrs. Flowers influence Angelou's life?

☒ A. by bringing her books

B. by taking her to the doctor

C. by giving her a job as a dancer

D. by getting her interested in science

5. What gave Angelou the courage to speak again?

A. her sister's support

B. writing her first book

☒ C. reading books and poems

D. meeting her future husband

6. Which of the following is an example of figurative language?

- ☒ A. Her smile was as bright as the sun.
- B. George cooked an extremely spicy chili.
- C. The bus ride took twice as long as usual!
- D. Toni Morrison is my favorite author of all time.

7. True or False: Angelou's only skill was writing.

- A. True
- ☒ B. False

8. How did Angelou turn a loss into a gain?

- A. She lost the first draft of her memoir but was able to rewrite it from memory.
- ☒ C. She turned her painful memories into beloved books.
- B. She was in a terrible accident as a child and learned to live with gratitude.
- D. She adopted a daughter after her mother died.

9. Angelou became a mother at the age of

- ☒ A. 17.
- B. 19.
- C. 22.
- D. 30.

10. Angelou is best known for *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, a

- A. spoken-word album.
- B. book of poems.
- C. screenplay.
- ☒ D. memoir.