

# JOHN

# WILLIAMS

## Reading Comprehension

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### JOHN WILLIAMS

#### Early Life

John Williams was born in Floral Park, New York on February 8, 1932. He moved with his family to Los Angeles, California in 1941 where he studied composition. He was drafted to the United States Army in 1951 after college. He had the opportunity to conduct and arrange music for a marching band.

#### Music

Williams moved to New York City to attend the Juilliard School of Music in 1954 and his military service ended. After he completed his education, he moved back to Los Angeles to start working as a studio orchestrator. He was given the opportunity to compose the theme to the television series Star Wars, marking the beginning of a career that spanned six decades. Williams produced some of the best music ever written for film during this time, including his music for Star Wars, which was selected by the American Film Institute as the greatest film score of all time. He also conducted for the Boston Symphony Orchestra and conducts for them a few times a year, especially around Christmas.

#### Film Scores

His film scores include Jaws (1975), Star Wars (1977), E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial (1978), Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981), Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom (1984), Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (1989), Jurassic Park (1993), and Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (2001). In total, John Williams has won five Academy Awards and 50 Academy Award nominations. He is the second most nominated individual after Walt Disney.

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- A. Williams was born in New York City
- B. Williams composed the theme for this in 1993
- C. Williams composed the theme for this show
- D. Williams and his family moved to this state
- E. Williams was born in this state
- F. Williams has won five of these awards
- G. Williams served in this military branch
- H. Williams sometimes conducts for this orchestra

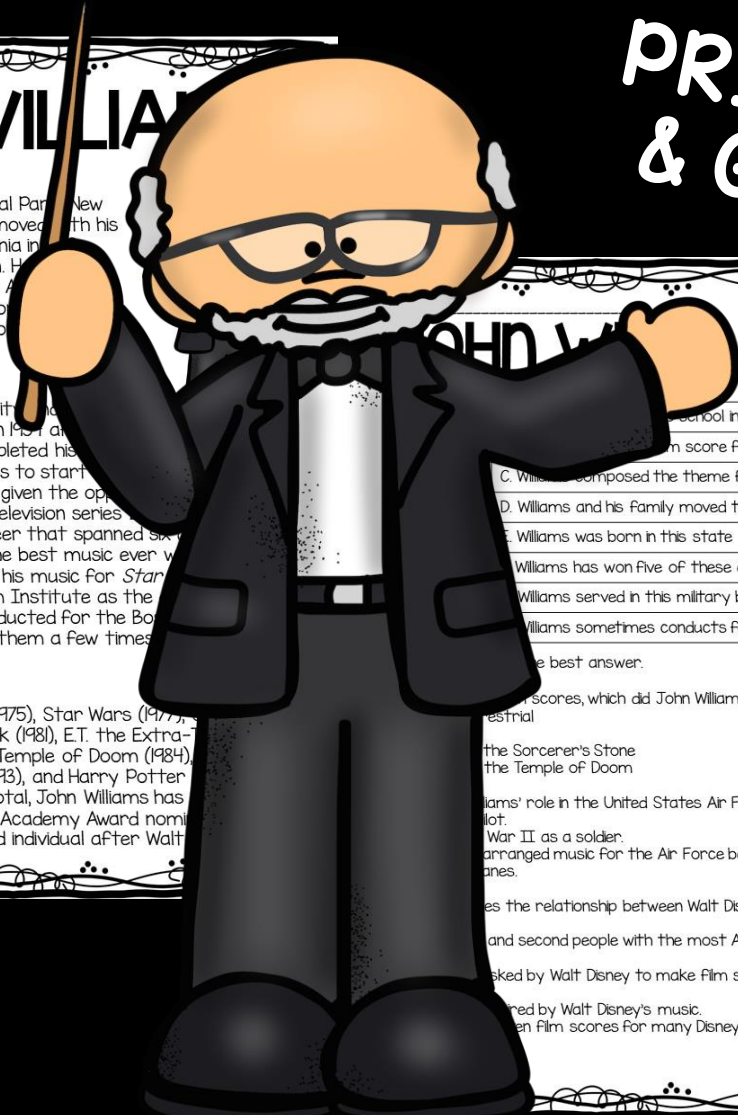
Choose the best answer.

1. Williams' film scores, which did John Williams make first?  
A. E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial  
B. Star Wars  
C. the Sorcerer's Stone  
D. the Temple of Doom

2. Williams' role in the United States Air Force?  
A. Pilot  
B. War II as a soldier  
C. arranged music for the Air Force band  
D. none of these

3. Who is the relationship between Walt Disney and John Williams?  
A. Williams and second people with the most Academy Award nominations  
B. Williams was asked by Walt Disney to make film scores for his movies  
C. Williams was inspired by Walt Disney's music  
D. Williams has written film scores for many Disney movies.

COLOR  
& BW



# JOHN WILLIAMS

## Early Life

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## Music

Williams moved to New York City and enrolled in the Juilliard School of Music in 1954 after his service ended. After he completed his education, he moved back to Los Angeles to start working as a film studio orchestrator. He was given the opportunity to compose the theme to the television series *Lost in Space*, marking the beginning of career that spanned six decades. Williams produced some of the best music ever written for film during this time, including his music for *Star Wars*. It was selected by the American Film Institute as the greatest film score of all time. He also conducted for the Boston Pops Orchestra and conducts for them a few times each year, especially around Christmas.

## Film Scores

His film scores include *Jaws* (1975), *Star Wars* (1977), *Superman* (1978), *Raiders of the Lost Ark* (1981), *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial* (1982), *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom* (1984), *Home Alone* (1990), *Jurassic Park* (1993), and *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* (2001). In total, John Williams has received five Academy Awards and 50 Academy Award nominations. He is the second most nominated individual after Walt Disney.



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**Matching:** Match each term with its description.

1. _____ California	A. Williams attended this school in New York City
2. _____ Lost in Space	B. Williams wrote the film score for this in 1993
3. _____ New York	C. Williams composed the theme for this show
4. _____ Boston Pops	D. Williams and his family moved to this state
5. _____ Air Force	E. Williams was born in this state
6. _____ Jurassic Park	F. Williams has won five of these awards
7. _____ Juilliard	G. Williams served in this military branch
8. _____ Academy	H. Williams sometimes conducts for this orchestra

**Multiple Choice:** Choose the best answer.

9. Out of the following film scores, which did John Williams make first?
- A. E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial
  - B. Jaws
  - C. Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone
  - D. Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom
10. What was John Williams' role in the United States Air Force?
- A. He was a fighter pilot.
  - B. He served in World War II as a soldier.
  - C. He conducted and arranged music for the Air Force band.
  - D. He flew bomber planes.
11. Which best describes the relationship between Walt Disney and John Williams?
- A. They are the first and second people with the most Academy Award nominations.
  - B. John Williams was asked by Walt Disney to make film scores for his movies.
  - C. John Williams was inspired by Walt Disney's music.
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