

Amy Winehouse

'Hand me your Stella and fly'

Amy Jade Winehouse was an English singer and songwriter. She was known for her marvelous voice and controversial private life. She debuted in 2003 at the age of 20 with the album 'Frank'. It set her on the road to fame. Music lovers everywhere were excited about her talents and how her career would progress. She was one of music's hottest stars but constantly battled against drugs and alcohol.

She grew up in a family that loved jazz. Her musical talents were clear to see from a very young age. Aged ten, she formed a rap group called Sweet 'n' Sour with a childhood friend. She got her first guitar when she was 13 and she began writing music. She signed to a major record label after they heard her distinctive voice.

Winehouse's second album "Back To Black" made her an acclaimed international star. She won dozens of awards, including five at the 2008 Grammy's. Some of the biggest names in rock were waiting to collaborate with her. George Michael said: "Amy is the best female vocalist I have ever heard in my entire career, as well as one of the best writers."

Winehouse was constantly the focus of media attention. She couldn't escape the reporters who followed her every move. She has given them good reason to write about her. Her battles with drug and alcohol abuse and her self-destructive behaviour was often tabloid news. The world has lost an amazing talent who had so much more incredible music to offer. She died in July, 2011, aged 27.

A1. Match the words from the passage on the left with their synonyms on the right.

1. marvelous	a. develop
2. debuted	b. unique
3. progress	c. started
4. clear	d. admired
5. formed	e. wonderful
6. distinctive	f. made her first appearance
7. acclaimed	g. amazing
8. collaborate	h. whole
9. entire	i. obvious
10. incredible	j. work together

A2. What was Amy Winehouse famous for?

- A) She was famous for her voice and her agreeable private life
- B) She was famous for her terrible voice and her private life
- C) She was famous for her voice and her equivocal private life
- D) She was famous for her songs

A3. Amy Winehouse made her first public appearance ... **T** **F**

- A) when she was just 20
- B) in 2003
- C) with the CD 'Frank'
- D) when she was very young

A4. Amy Winehouse was ... **T** **F**

- A) a very talented singer and songwriter
- B) a music star
- C) a drug addict
- D) against alcohol and drugs

A5. Since she was very young ... **T** **F**

- A) she showed love for music
- B) she showed musical talents
- C) she played a musical instrument
- D) she wrote music

A6. When did Amy Winehouse become an international star?

- A) After her first album
- B) In 2008
- C) When she won awards
- D) After her second album

A7. George Michael admired ... **T** **F**

- A) Amy as singer and songwriter
- B) Amy's voice
- C) Amy's career
- D) Amy's books

A8. Why was Amy Winehouse constantly followed by journalists? T F

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| A) Because of her self-destructive behaviour | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| B) Because of her drug and alcohol addiction | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| C) Because of her tabloids | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| D) Because of her moral behaviour | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

A9. She died in the month ...

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| A) before June | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| B) before August | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| C) after August | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| D) after May | <input type="checkbox"/> |

A10. Choose the best summary of the passage

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| A) Amy Winehouse won a lot of awards | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| B) Amy Winehouse was a drug and alcohol addict | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| C) Amy Winehouse was a great singer and an international music star who died very young | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| D) Amy Winehouse was a famous singer who disregarded drug | <input type="checkbox"/> |