

Name _____

Eric Clapton: The Guitar Legend

Short Answer Key

1. Eric Clapton was heavily influenced by blues artists such as Robert Johnson and B.B. King. These iconic musicians inspired Clapton's love for blues and motivated him to develop his guitar skills, ultimately leading to his distinctive blues-based playing style.
2. Eric Clapton's solo career took off in the 1970s with the release of his self-titled album, "Eric Clapton." The album that featured the classic song "Layla" was "Layla and Other Assorted Love Songs," recorded with Derek and the Dominos. Clapton's success with "Layla" and subsequent albums established him as a solo artist.
3. Eric Clapton faced personal challenges, including struggles with addiction and the tragic loss of his son, Conor. He expressed his emotions through his music, creating poignant songs like "Tears in Heaven," which reflected his grief and helped him cope with his personal tragedies.
4. Eric Clapton's "woman tone" is a distinctive guitar sound characterized by smooth and expressive phrasing with a warm, singing quality. He achieved this tone by using a Fender Stratocaster and adjusting the guitar's controls to create a unique timbre. The "woman tone" has become a defining feature of Clapton's guitar-playing style, influencing many other guitarists.
5. Eric Clapton is known for his philanthropic efforts, most notably founding the Crossroads Centre, a drug and alcohol rehabilitation facility in Antigua. He has organized benefit concerts to support this cause, including the Crossroads Guitar Festival. Clapton's use of his fame to support charitable causes has made a significant impact on the field of addiction recovery and has garnered recognition for his humanitarian work.

