

Name _____

Kendrick Lamar: The Poet of Hip Hop

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Kendrick Lamar developed his talent as a rapper by starting under the name K-Dot as a teenager, releasing mixtapes, and catching the attention of Dr. Dre, who signed him to Aftermath Entertainment.
2. "good kid, m.A.A.d city" is important in Kendrick Lamar's career because it tells the story of his life growing up in Compton and addresses the challenges of the neighborhood, while also showcasing his introspective lyrics and unique flow. It had a significant impact on the hip hop genre by blending storytelling with raw authenticity.
3. Kendrick Lamar addresses themes of race, identity, and societal struggles in his music through powerful lyrics and songs like "Alright" and "The Blacker the Berry." These songs provide social commentary and encourage self-reflection on these important issues.
4. Kendrick Lamar's music has resonated with audiences due to its honesty, thought-provoking lyrics, and ability to address pressing social issues. His legacy in the world of hip hop is likely to be one of a socially conscious artist who used his platform to inspire change and self-awareness.

