

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Tapping into History: The World of Tap Dance

### Short Answer Key

1. Tap dance developed from a fusion of African and European dance traditions in the United States during the period of slavery.
2. Tap shoes have metal plates on the soles and heels that create sound when they come into contact with the floor, allowing dancers to produce rhythmic beats.
3. Tap dancers use improvisation to create spontaneous rhythms and patterns during their performances, adding creativity and excitement to their routines.
4. One famous tap dancer from the 20th century is Fred Astaire, known for his exceptional dancing skills and contributions to American entertainment.
5. Musicality plays a role in tap dance as dancers use their feet to interpret and enhance the music's rhythm, melody, and mood, making their performances more expressive and engaging.

