

Enrico Caruso

True/False Questions

1. **Enrico Caruso was born in Rome, Italy.**
Answer: False. (He was born in Naples, Italy.)
2. **Caruso was one of the first opera singers to make recordings.**
Answer: True.
3. **Caruso married Dorothy Park Benjamin in 1897.**
Answer: False. (He married Dorothy Park Benjamin in 1918.)
4. **Caruso's final performance was in 1920 at the Metropolitan Opera in New York.**
Answer: True.
5. **Caruso never had any problems with criminals in New York.**
Answer: False. (He had problems with criminals known as "Black Hand" extortionists.)

Open-Ended Questions

1. **Where and when was Enrico Caruso born?**
Answer: Enrico Caruso was born on February 25, 1873, in Naples, Italy.
2. **What kind of work did Caruso's father do?**
Answer: Caruso's father, Marcellino Caruso, worked as a mechanic.
3. **What was Caruso's first professional singing job?**
Answer: Caruso's first professional singing job was in a small opera called "*L'Amico Francesco*" at a local theater in Naples when he was 22 years old.
4. **Which opera house gave Caruso his big break in 1897?**
Answer: Caruso's big break came when he was invited to sing at La Scala in Milan in 1897.
5. **What role did Caruso play in his debut at La Scala?**
Answer: Caruso played the role of Rodolfo in the opera "*La Bohème*" by Giacomo Puccini.
6. **Why was Caruso arrested in Central Park in 1906?**
Answer: Caruso was arrested in Central Park in 1906 because he was accused of pinching a woman in the park's monkey house, a charge he denied.
7. **Who did Caruso believe was behind the false accusation in Central Park?**
Answer: Caruso believed that local criminals, known as "Black Hand" extortionists, were behind the false accusation.
8. **What was the outcome of Caruso's court case after the Central Park incident?**
Answer: Caruso was fined \$10, which was a small amount even at the time.
9. **Who was Caruso's first long-term romantic partner, and what happened to their relationship?**

Answer: Caruso's first long-term romantic partner was Ada Giachetti, a singer with whom he had two sons. Their relationship ended in 1908 when Ada left him and took their children with her.

10. **How did Enrico Caruso's health decline in his later years?**

Answer: Caruso's health declined after he suffered a serious throat injury in 1920, and he was later diagnosed with pleurisy. His condition worsened, leading to his death in 1921.