

## George Eliot

Some of the most famous books in the English language were written by George Eliot. But “George Eliot” was not the writer’s real name. George Eliot was really a woman named Mary Anne Evans. She lived in England from 1819 to 1880. During her life, she wrote seven books, but she didn’t use her real name for her writing. She used a man’s name instead.

Mary Anne Evans wrote her first book in 1859. At that time, many women were writing books, and some of these women were famous. But men thought that women could not write good books. They said that women only wrote stories about getting married. Evans used a man’s name because she wanted to write about other things. She wrote about the lives and problems of people in small towns in England. Many people said that George Eliot was a great writer.

At first, no one knew that George Eliot was a woman. Then, a man started saying that he was George Eliot. To protect her work, Evans had to tell people her secret. Soon she became well known. But she still used the name George Eliot for her books because the name was already famous. Many people say that Eliot’s *Middlemarch* is one of the greatest books in the English language. This book is about many kinds of people and their lives. People began to think differently about women writers because of Eliot’s books. Thanks to her, women today can write about anything, so they can become great writers.

実際の英検では例のような質問が出て、その下の答えが正解となります。

でもこの答え (She used the name of a man) そのものは、文章の中にありません。

この質問から答えを導き出すための文章を複数探してください。

例： **Question: What did Mary Anne Evans do when she wrote books?**

**Answer: She used the name of a man.**

答え

- 1) George Eliot was really a woman named Mary Anne Evans.
- 2) ...she wrote seven books, but she didn't use her real name for her writing.
- 3) She used a man's name instead.

**Question: What did men think about women around 1859?**

**Answer: They could not write books that were well written and interesting to men.**

答え

- 1)
- 2)

**Question: Why did Mary Evans have to tell her secret?**

**Answer: Someone else said they were George Eliot.**

答え

- 1)
- 2)

## ANSWERS

**Question: What did men think about women around 1859?**

**Answer: They could not write books that were well written and interesting to men.**

答え

- 1) men thought that women could not write good books.
- 2) They said that women only wrote stories about getting married.

**Question: Why did Mary Evans have to tell her secret?**

**Answer: Someone else said they were George Eliot.**

答え

- 1) Then, a man started saying that he was George Eliot.
- 2) To protect her work, Evans had to tell people her secret.