

WILLIAM FAULKNER

Read W. Faulkner's biography and do some tasks. Find new words and write down them into your vocabularies.

Task 1. Read the text below. Choose from (A–H) the one which best fits each of (1–6). There are two choices you do not need to use.

In a series of interconnected novels and short stories set in the fictional Yoknapatawpha county (Йокнапатофа) in the state of Mississippi, Faulkner, (1) ... , whose setting in the American South expands to universal observations about suffering, dignity, and the enduring fate of man.

William Faulkner (Sept. 25, 1897, New Albany, Mississippi — July 6, 1962, near Oxford, Mississippi) was born into a prominent southern family. His great grandfather had been a local legend — a lawyer, railroad builder, politician, colonel in the Civil War and writer. A more profound domination on Faulkner, however, (2)

Rejected for service in the U.S. Army during the World War I because he was under the minimum height, Faulkner went to Canada and joined the Royal Air Force. After the war, Faulkner was admitted to the University of Mississippi but did not complete his first year.

Student publications, however, were an outlet for his first stories and poems.

During the 1920 s, Faulkner was writing imitative poetry. His mentor in these exercises, and in much of his later work, (3) ... , who kept him in touch with contemporary literary movements and helped finance the publication of his first collection of poems, **The Marble Faun** . Sherwood Anderson, another advisor and companion, encouraged him to write **Soldiers Pay** , an experimental, bitter novel about a returning war veteran, and secured a publisher for the book, which received good notices but sold few copies. Faulkner then went on a walking tour in Europe and wrote **Mosquitoes** , a satiric novel of literary life in New Orleans.

In his third novel, **Sartoris** , Faulkner invented the fictional world of Yoknapatawpha county, which he based on Lafayette county, where he lived. This novel liberated a remarkable flood of creative energy, and from 1929 to 1936 Faulkner wrote **The Sound and the Fury** , **As I Lay Dying** , **Light in August** . The only one of these books without a Yoknapatawpha setting was **Absalom, Absalom!** . With **Sanctuary** , a shocking but serious work, (4) ...to make his writing salable to the bestpaying magazines. Well into the 1960 s, he continued to explore the “past” of Yoknapatawpha, its tenant farmers, business

people, aristocrats, former slaves and Native Americans. Though Faulkner wrote of the conservative rural South,

(5) He experimented with repetition, irregular punctuation, long puzzling sentences, flashbacks, different points of view. He often spoke out of a consciousness of a child, a recluse, a fool, an addict, or someone on the verge of madness. This enclosed world came to stand for all the Deep South.

Although fame came to Faulkner slowly and after his best work was done, (6) He received the Nobel Prize (1954), the National Book Award (1951), and two Pulitzer prizes (1955, 1963). The expanse of his imaginative power, the style intensity, and the continuous and serious experimentalism of his forms made him one of the few American writers worthy to be called great.

- A. was a fellow townsman, Phil Stone
- B. his career extended through many books
- C. an American novelist and short story writer, produced major work of the imagination
- D. recognition was piled up on him towards the end of his life
- E. he wanted to change of the upper classes
- F. exerted his ambitious, sensitive and literary mother
- G. his writing was further ahead in novelty
- H. Faulkner won a sizable audience and received sufficient publicity

Task 2. Make up sentences from the words given there. Mind the word order.

- 1) liberated / of / This / energy / is / remarkable / a / creative / novel / flood /
- 2) Faulkner / to / Mississippi / After / but / year / the / his / was / did / war / first / complete / University / not / the / admitted / of /
- 3) of / addict / a / madness / on / often / child / of / spoke / an / verge / He / a / out / rescue / a / someone / of / the / consciousness / a / fool / or /

Task 3. Choose the best linking word.

- 1 Rejected for service in the U.S. Army during the World War I (that / because / that's why) he was under the minimum height.

2 Student publications, (however / furthermore /on the other hand), were an outlet for his first stories and poems.

3 Phil Stone kept him in touch with contemporary literary movements (but / and / that) helped finance the publication of his first collection of poems.

4 Well into the 1960 s, he continued to explore the “past” of Yoknapatawpha, its tenant farmers, business people, aristocrats, former slaves (who /and / which) Native Americans.