

BANISHED IMMORTAL

HIST 10 – Book Quiz Study Guide (2021)

INSTRUCTIONS: The book quiz will contain two parts: a matching portion and an essay portion. You will have the entire class **Wednesday October 13**.

ID Terms (50 points: 10 terms x 5 points each): Ten terms will be drawn from the glossary and appear on the quiz. The definitions will be exactly the same as are in the glossary.

ESSAY QUESTION (100 points): One of the following will appear on the quiz. The best responses should be thoughtfully constructed, include specific examples and demonstrate that you have read and understood the main points of the book. The essay is expected to be 3-4 paragraphs in length, but no additional paper will be provided. So your response will need to fit on one-and-a-half pages. Plan accordingly.

1. Some scholars have suggested that Li Bai was a product of his time and could not have emerged in any other era or place. Discuss how Li Bai reflects the culture, politics and attitudes of Tang dynasty China. Your answer should make reference to at least one of his poems.
2. Personal relationships were a central part of Li Bai's life: his many partners/wives, fellow poets and his political patrons. Select three individuals that you think most deeply shaped his life and explain why. Your answer should refer to at least one of his poems.

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Book Quiz Glossary and Timeline

PEOPLE:

An Lushan	A Tang general, of Sogdian and Göktürk extraction who led a rebellion against the Tang court
Boqin	Li Bai's son
Green Lotus Scholar	A nickname by which Li Bai was known
Jinling Girl	A prostitute who appears in a several of Li Bai's poems reflecting a tendency for many of his poems being about wine or women.
Lao Tzu (Lao Zi)	Chinese philosopher traditionally regarded as founder of Daoism
Li Ke	Li Bai's father
Miss Liu	Li Bai's first domestic partner (but second partner)
Miss Lu	Li Bai's second domestic partner (but third partner)
Miss Xu	Li Bai's first wife
Miss Zong	Li Bai's second wife (but fourth partner)
Li Ke	Li Bai's father
Pingyang	Li Bai's daughter
Poyi	Li Bai's youngest son
Xuanzong	Tang emperor who assigned Li Bai to Imperial Academy
Zhexian	Li Bai's most famous nickname, Banished Immortal, that he was often referred to even during his lifetime.

PLACES:

Chang'an	Tang court's West capital
Chengdu	A western Chinese city (in modern day Sichuan province)
Hangzhou	A southern Chinese city renowned for its architectural, cultural and natural beauty
Jiangyou	Not his birthplace but the Sichuan town Li Bai's unwaveringly considered home
Luoyang	Tang court's East capital
Mt Emei	One of four sacred Buddhist mountains of China, located south of Chengdu in Sichuan province famed for its picturesque, breathtaking views.
Mt. Lushan	A sacred mountain in southeastern China known for its fine scenery and as a place where many devoted Buddhists gathered to study scriptures.
Mt. Song	A sacred Daoist mountain located near Luoyang, known as a retreat for many accomplished Daoists.
Nanzhao	An independent kingdom southwest of the Tang empire with whom the Tang was at war
Sichuan	A province in southwestern China and often considered Li Bai's adopted province.
Suzhou	A city in south of China
Suyab	Li Bai's birthplace in modern day Kyrgyzstan.
Tibet	An independent kingdom, also known as Tufan, that posed a threat to the Tang.

KEY POEMS and OTHER LITERARY WORKS:

Leaving Baidi Town in the morning	Among the small number of masterpieces Li Bai wrote late in his life.
Chuang Tzu (Zhuangzi)	An ancient Chinese Daoist text that contains anecdotes emphasizing Daoist values named for its traditional author, "Master Zhuang"
Reflection in a Quiet Night	Li Bai's most famous poem that launched his reputation and over a millennium later was included on UN postage stamps commemorating World Poetry Day.
River-Merchant's Wife	Best known in the West from Ezra Pound's translation, composed in 724 on a journey from Sichuan to Luoyang.
Song of the Emei Moon	An early milestone in his poetic career describing the beauty of the Qiang River and his feelings of homesickness
Tao Te Ching (Daodejing)	Key religious text that emphasized following the natural way without pressure
Watching the Lushan Waterfall	Perhaps Li Bai's earliest masterpieces still memorized by school children that ends "I wonder if it's the Milky Way descending from Heaven."

TIMELINE:

701 – Born

718 – The first time Li Bai leaves home traveling to Changping Mountain in northern Sichuan (22)

719 – Traveled to Chengdu the capital of Sichuan province where he met with Governor Su Ting

720 – Returned to his hometown (Jiangyou)

724 – Again left his hometown, this time traveling to the Chu and Wu regions (modern Hubei and Jiangsu) in southeastern China

726 – Arrived in Jinling (modern Nanjing)

727 – Marries Miss Xu

730 – Travels to Chang'an

732 – Travels to in and around capital searching for patron

732 – Leaves capital traveling to Mount Song (Henan), Luoyang before finally arriving home in Anlu

- Father-in-law had died and left his brother-in-law all the property
- Wife ill
- Fails to find a patron and a post to earn a living
- Period of poverty, despair and hardships

735 – Yuan Yan invites Li Bai to travel with him to his father, a military commander, on the Mongolian border.

737 – Returns to Anlu in spring.

739 – Li Bai's first child born (a daughter named Pingyang)

740 – Li Bai with his daughter, wife and servants sell their cottage and headed north

741 – Li Bai's second child (a son named Boqin) born, but wife dies soon after.

742 – At friends and neighbors' urging, finds a new domestic partner (not wife) Miss Liu.

- Partnership an unhappy one with Miss Liu eventually eloping with a merchant
- Soon after Li Bai finds another woman, "woman of Lu"
- By the fall (742), emperor extends a personal official summons for Li Bai to come to court

744 – Li Bai resigns from his post and leaves Chang'an

- In total had served less than two years at the court
- Traveled to Luoyang where he met Du Fu (the first of three visits, all within a single year) and together traveled to Kaifeng

745 – Travelled to Hebei to become inducted by a Daoist master

746 – after a misguided attempt at making his own immortality pills, Li Bai becomes seriously ill

748 – Traveled to Nanjing

- Due to friends and acquaintances political troubles and missing his children much of his best poetry written during his point

750 – Marries second wife, Miss Zong in Kaifeng.

751 – Invited by his friend Yuan Danqiu to come and visit his newly built hermitage near Nanyang (SW Henan)

752 – travels north to and learns of An Lushan's desire to lead rebellion, but warned Li Bai returns home

756 – Invited to join An Lushan uprising by Wei Zichun (who presented him with 500 gold pieces and a letter personally written by Prince Yong)

- After a short-lived uprising (An Lushan had already been murdered), Li Bai imprisoned by Tang court
- In 757, emperor decreed that Li Bai be "banished to Yelang for three years"

760 – Returns to Jiangxia (Wuhan)

761 – Li Bai falls ill but recovers

764 – Li Bai dies