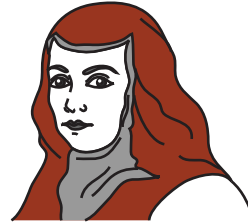


Using Notes to Write: Juana Ines de la Cruz



Below is an example of a complete biography outline. Use the information in the outline to complete the paragraph about Juana Ines de la Cruz.

Famous Person's Name: Juana Ines de la Cruz

Date and Place of Birth: November 12, 1651, San Miguel Nepantla, Mexico

Names of Mother and Father: Pedro Manuel de Asbaje, Isabel Ramirez

Names of Siblings: none

Facts About Early Life: As a child, Juana loved to learn. At the time, Mexico was the property of Spain, and it was not customary in either country for women to go to school. Juana would sneak books from her family's library into the chapel next door and hide there, reading in secret. By the time she was a teenager, she had written poetry, could do math, and had learned Latin.

When she was older, she was sent to live with her aunt in Mexico City. She asked her mother to let her dress up as a boy so she would be allowed into the city's schools. Her mother said no, but hired a tutor for her. Her tutor was so impressed that he called a meeting of experts to test her on her knowledge of science and literature. She passed, and soon became a sensation in Mexico City.

Education: Self-taught, then tutored

Facts About Adult Life: In 1667, she became a nun not only so that she could explore her religion, but because nuns were allowed to educate themselves. While a nun, she wrote books, poems, and plays, which often spoke out about women's struggles or had brave and smart women as main characters. She also published a famous essay that argued for women's access to education.

How this person made an impact on the world: She is now a national hero in both Mexico and Spain for her work to advance the role of women in society.

Juana Ines de la Cruz was born on _____ in _____.

Juana loved to _____ and had to hide in a _____ so she could do so without getting in trouble.

When she was older, she was sent to live in _____. She wanted to _____ so that she could go to school, but her mother wouldn't let her. Instead, her mother hired a _____. In _____, she became a nun so that she would be allowed to study. While she was a nun, she wrote _____, _____, and _____ that showed smart and brave women.