

Early Life: Eminem's Real Name, Mom, and Dad

1) Eminem's real name is Marshall Bruce Mathers III. He was born on October 17, 1972, in St. Joseph, Missouri. His famous stage name is taken from his first and last initials. Eminem never knew his father, Marshall Mathers Jr., who abandoned the family when Eminem was still an infant and rebuffed all of his son's many attempts to contact him during his childhood.

2) As a result, Eminem was raised by his mother, Deborah "Debbie" Nelson. His mom never managed to hold down a job for more than several months at a time, so they moved frequently between Missouri and Detroit, spending large chunks of time in public housing projects. "I would change schools two, three times a year," Eminem later recalled. "That was probably the roughest part about it all."

3) This itinerant lifestyle left a large impact on his personality. He had no close friends, kept almost entirely to himself, and was treated like an outcast at each new school. "Beat up in the bathroom, beat up in the hallways, shoved into lockers," he remembered.

4) Eminem attended Lincoln High School in Warren, Michigan, where he failed the ninth grade three times and eventually dropped out at the age of 17. Yet despite being a poor student, Eminem always had a deep affinity for language, devouring comic books and even studying the dictionary.

According to the text answer the following questions by picking out TRUE or FALSE:

1. Eminem was born on October 17, 1972, in Detroit.

- A. True
- B. False

2. Eminem's stage name is derived from his own initials.

- A. True
- B. False

3. Eminem's father abandoned him during his teenage years.

- A. True
- B. False

4. Eminem frequently changed schools during his childhood.

- A. True
- B. False