

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Quixote in History

**Directions:** Match each historical note about Spain's Golden Age or chivalric romance traditions to the way Cervantes used it in *Don Quixote*. Write the correct letter in the blank.

### Historical Notes

- A. Spain's Golden Age (Siglo de Oro) was a period of flourishing art, literature, and exploration from the 16th-17th centuries.
- B. Cervantes lived during a time of social change, when people questioned outdated traditions.
- C. Chivalric romances were extremely popular in Spain and Europe during the 1500s, filled with knights, quests, and magical adventures.
- D. The decline of Spain's power and the hardships of ordinary people contrasted sharply with the idealized world of knights in old stories.



### Connections to Don Quixote

- 1. Don Quixote imagines windmills are giants and sees inns as castles. (\_\_\_)
- 2. The novel was published in 1605, at the height of Spain's artistic and literary creativity. (\_\_\_)
- 3. Sancho Panza often represents the perspective of common people struggling with real-world concerns. (\_\_\_)
- 4. Cervantes parodies knightly tales to show that they are out of step with modern life. (\_\_\_)

**Reflection Question:** Briefly explain how knowing about Spain's Golden Age and the tradition of chivalric romances helps readers better understand *Don Quixote*. Do you think Cervantes was celebrating or criticizing his own culture? Why?

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