



# Phillis Wheatley

Text Book

## Phillis Wheatley - Text

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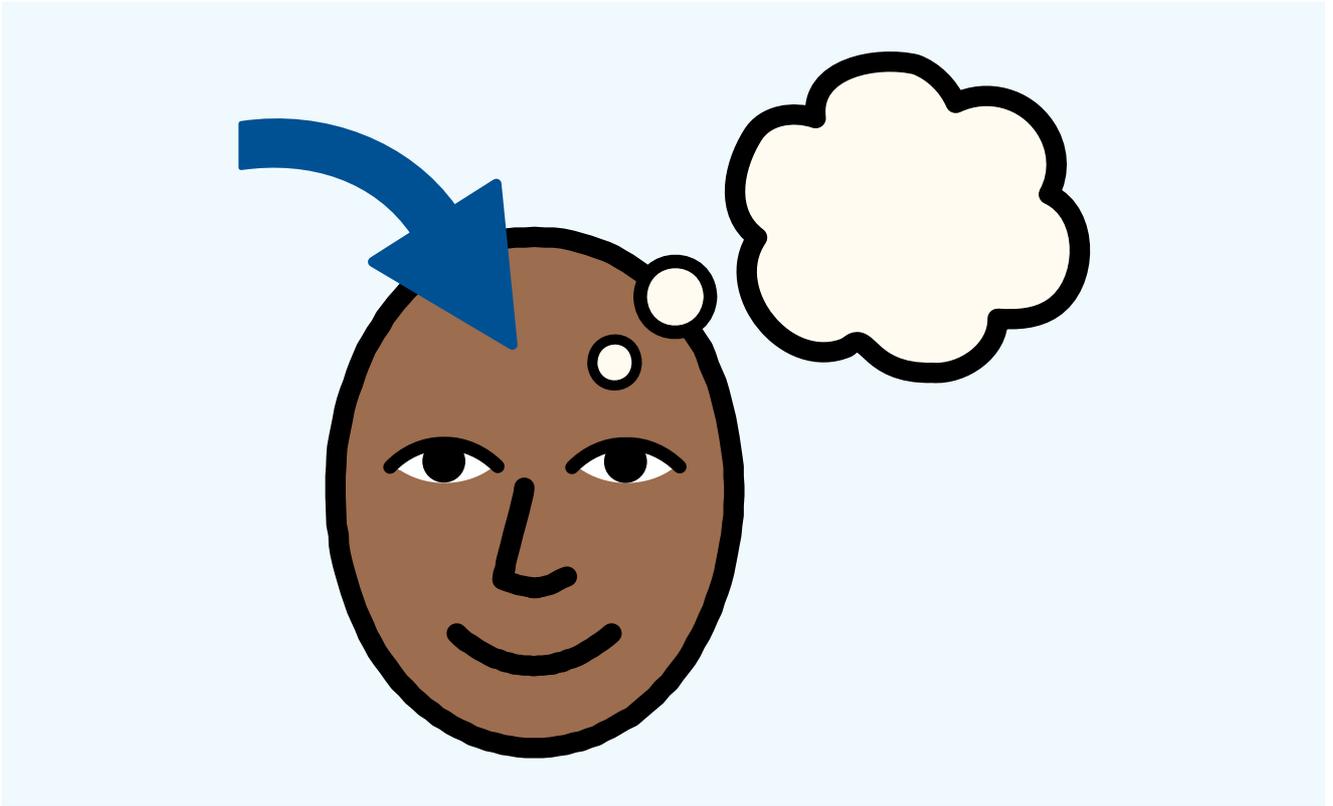


Phillis Wheatley was born in West Africa in 1753.

As a child she was enslaved and taken to America.

Phillis was later to become a poet.

She was the first African-American to be published.

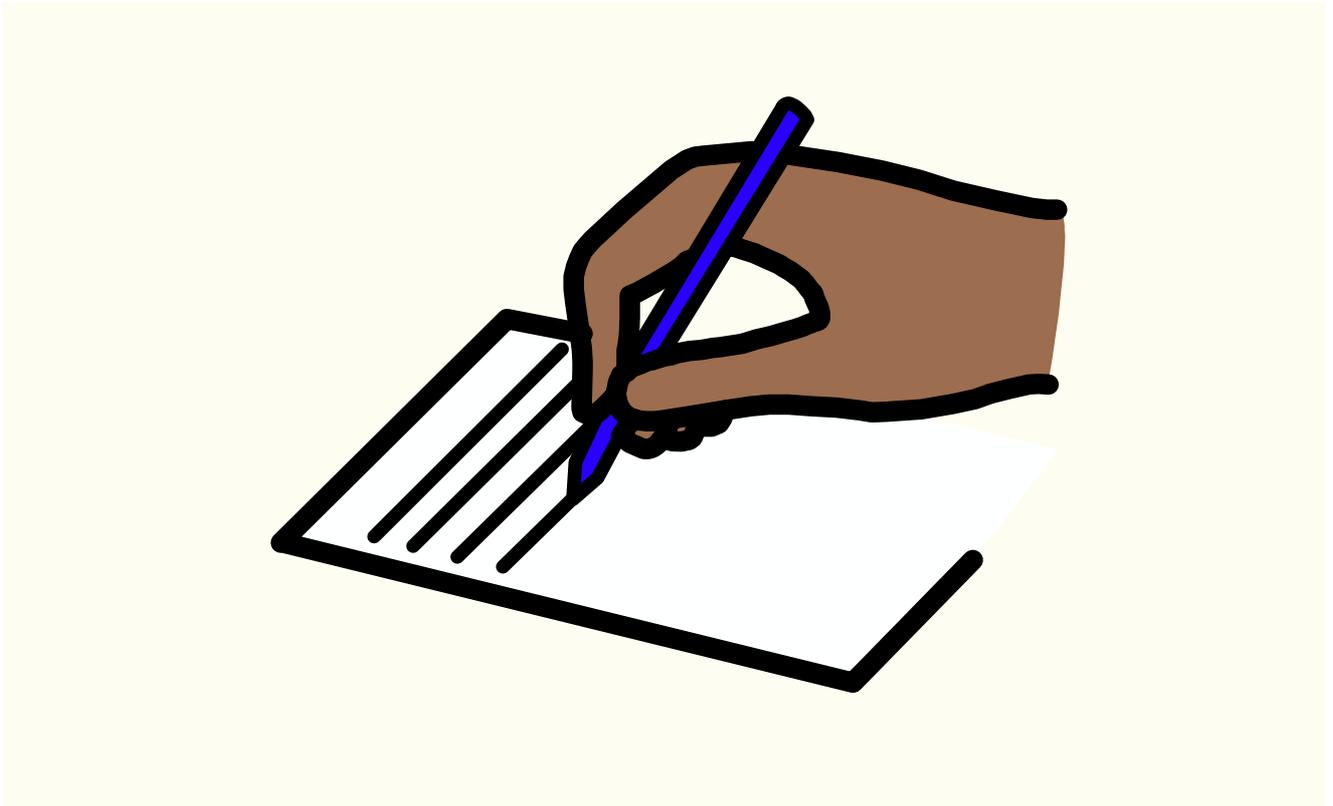


Phillis was bought as a slave by the Wheatley family.

They lived in Boston and were very rich.

Their daughter Mary taught Phillis to read and write.

Phillis learnt to read English, Greek and Latin.

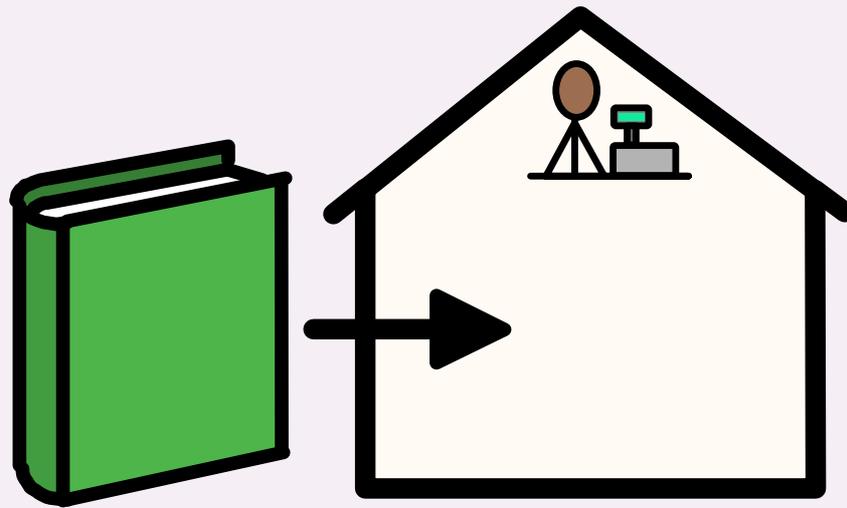


Phillis started writing poetry aged 14.

The Wheatley's said she didn't have to be a servant.

They introduced Phillis to their friends and family.

They encouraged Phillis to write more poems.



In 1773 Phillis went to London.

She had asthma and went to get better.

Phillis wanted her poetry to be made into a book.

A rich countess paid for her poetry to be published.

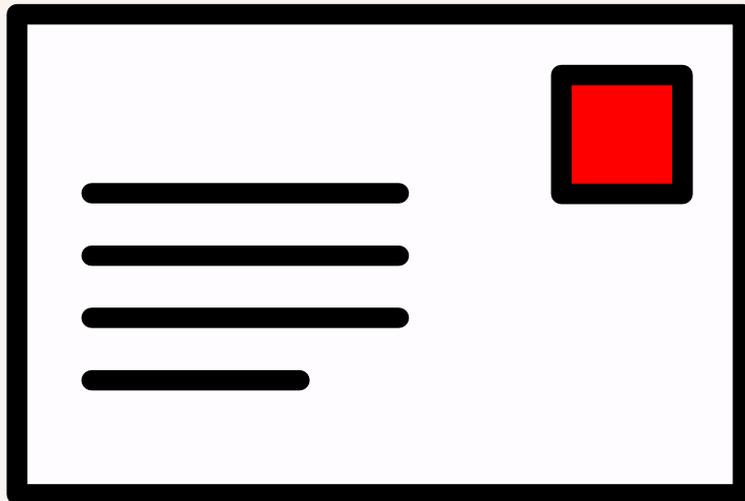


After her book was published Phillis was freed.

She was a slave no more.

Phillis wrote letters to important people.

She asked for other slaves to be freed.

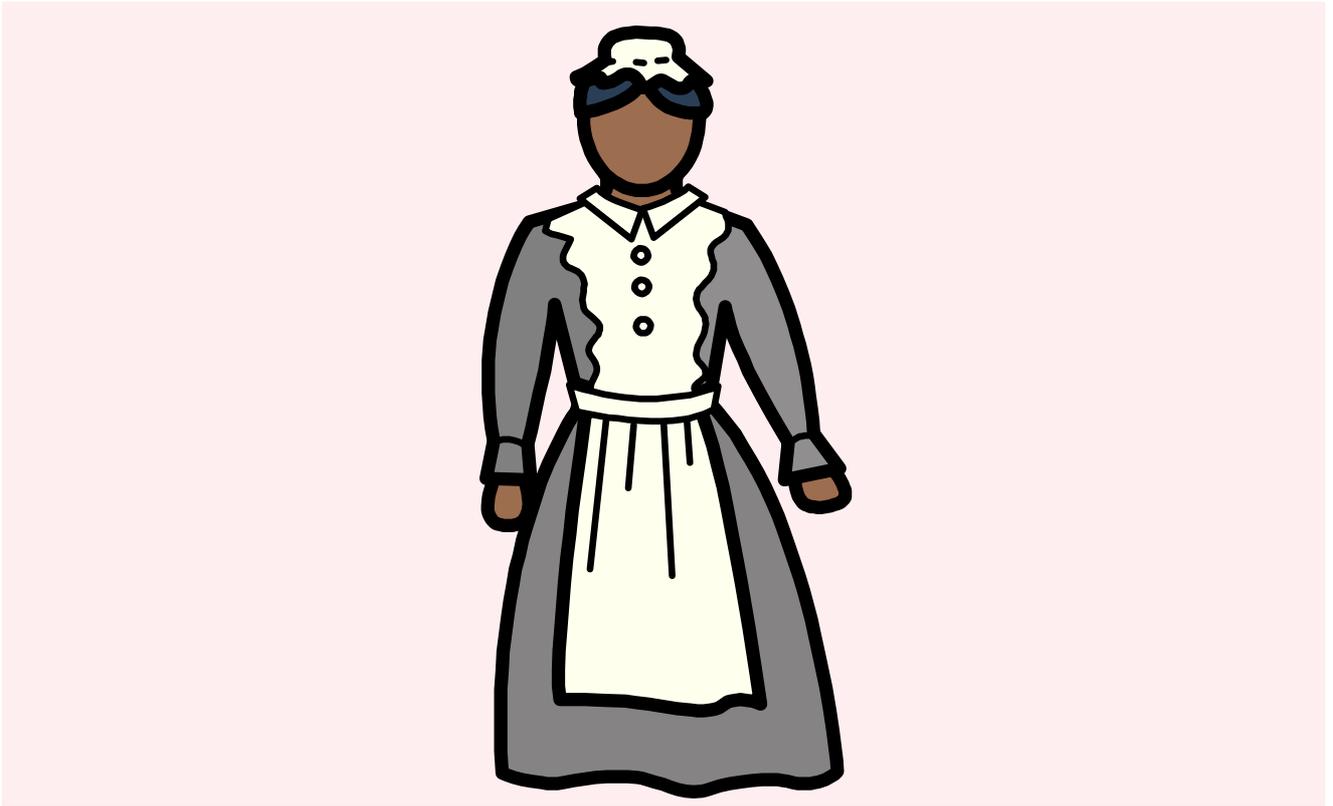


Phillis sent a poem to George Washington.

The poem was about how great Washington was.

Washington became the first president of the USA.

He wrote a letter to Phillis thanking her.



Phillis married a man called John Peters.

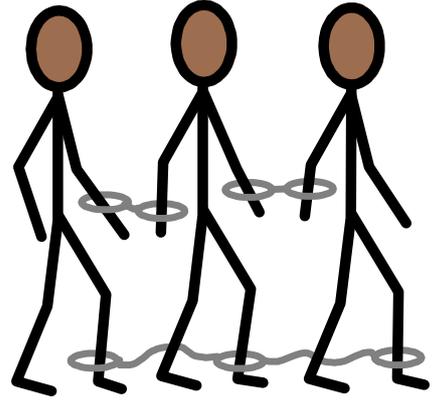
John was very poor and was sent to prison.

Phillis worked as a maid but became ill.

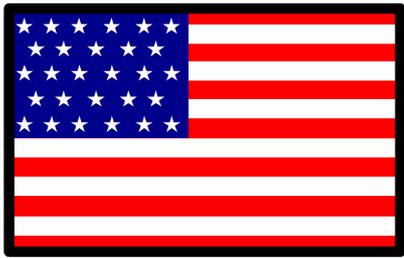
She died when she was aged 31.



Phillis Wheatley



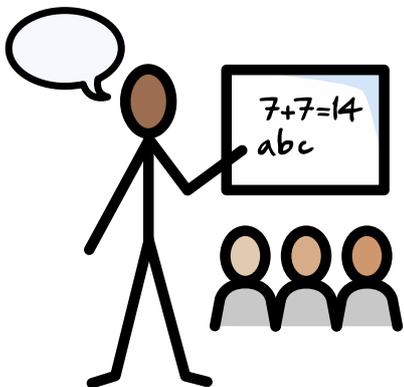
enslaved



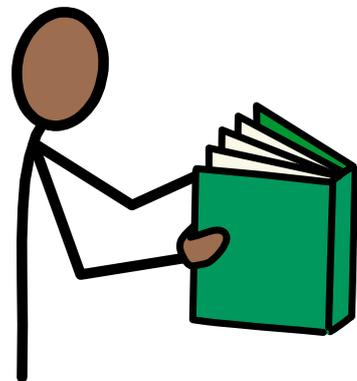
America



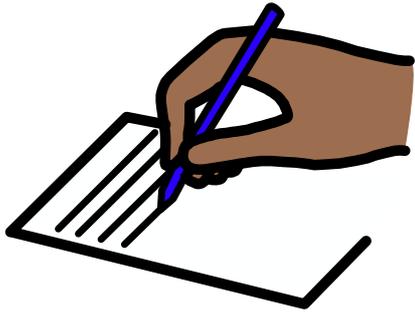
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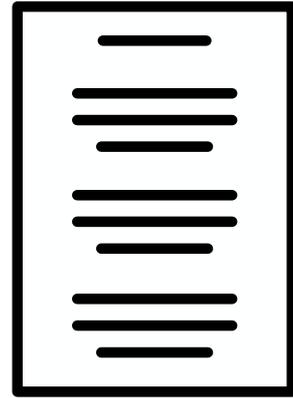
taught



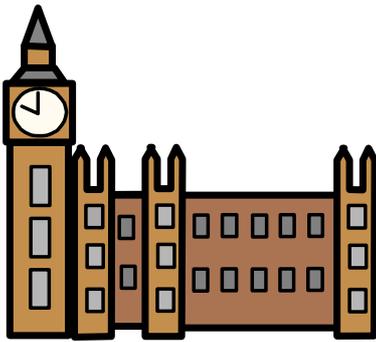
read



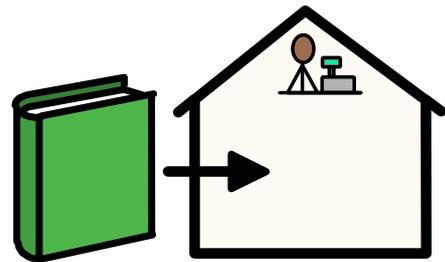
write



poetry



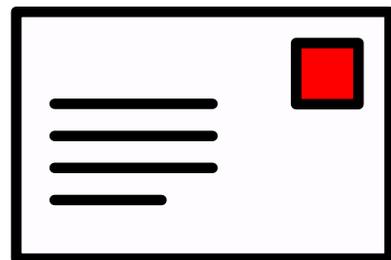
London



published



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letter