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Understanding The Text:

1. Do you think Umberto Eco likes being interviewed? Give reasons for your opinion

Answer:

Yes, Umberto Eco enjoys being interviewed, as evidenced by the animated tone with which he responds to the questions. He had no qualms about disclosing his writing secrets or his personal life experiences. Throughout the interview, his constant laughter and honest tone demonstrate his genuine interest in being interviewed.

2. How does Eco find the time to write so much?

Answer:

While explaining his ability to catch up with so many things in such a short period of time, he says he works in between the empty spaces he refers to as “interstices.” To finish his work, he actively uses the time we normally waste while waiting for somebody or doing something likewise unproductive.

3. What was distinctive about Eco’s academic writing style?

Answer:

Eco’s writings, in contrast to other academic writings, are not boring or tedious to read. His work takes a depersonalized and informal approach, which makes his style interesting and thus appealing. Instead of formal essays, he prefers to write creative and narrative pieces.

4. Did Umberto Eco consider himself a novelist first or an academic scholar?

Answer:

Umberto Eco’s primary work was in academia, but he also wrote novels on occasion. He also stated that he attended academic conferences rather than meetings of Pen Clubs and writers. As a result, we can conclude that Umberto Eco saw himself first and foremost as an academic scholar.

5. What is the reason for the huge success of the novel, The Name of the Rose?

Answer:

Umberto Eco is perplexed as to why his novel, ‘The Name of the Rose,’ was such a huge success. Nobody, not even him or his publishers, expected him to reach such heights of fame. Perhaps the book’s complex themes, such as metaphysics, theology, and medieval history, piqued the readers’ interest.