

“Mrs. Flowers”

from *I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings* By Maya Angelou

- This story is an autobiographical incident.
- The speaker will not straightforwardly tell us what the setting is, so look out for context clues which clue us in to setting.
 - What era might it be?
 - What might the speaker’s background be?
- The incident is short, perhaps mundane (not action-packed or exciting), but still very meaningful. Try to focus on how it was meaningful.

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Turn to page 135.

- **Answer questions #2, #3, and #5.** Work on your own; you will be able to compare your ideas later.

Answer these questions on your paper below the reading comprehension. You may lump your answers into a descriptive paragraph – or paragraphs!

- Has anyone in your life ever taken you aside to share advice about life? A parent? Older sibling? Teacher? Peer/friend? Describe the situation.
- What was the setting of this conversation or lesson? A car ride? A room in your home? Etc.
- What was the lesson and how did he or she convey this to you? Did the lesson stick or are you still waiting for it to click into meaning?
- Reread what you wrote. If you see any narrative strategies, annotate them!