

## Harlem Renaissance WebQuest Worksheet

During the next two days, you will be working toward completing the Harlem Renaissance WebQuest at [\\grover\web\2010\WengerdJT1\Webquest\Index.htm](http://grover.web.2010.WengerdJT1/Webquest/Index.htm). You will be working independently on this WebQuest class both days, but I will give you time to share thoughts with others at the beginning and end of the second class. Complete this worksheet and look at the WebQuest Worksheet rubric I have provided to gain an idea of my expectations for this project. You must remain silent during class unless I instruct otherwise, and you must remain on task both days without searching **ANY** websites that I do not have hyperlinked to the WebQuest. Remember, your performance as a class on this WebQuest will determine whether we do additional WebQuest activities in the future. Furthermore, you will notice that both required and optional questions appear on the worksheet. You must complete **all** required questions before moving on to optional questions. Finally, enjoy this opportunity to use technology so that you can gain a greater appreciation of the Harlem Renaissance and *A Raisin in the Sun*.

### **Background Information**

1. (Required) What is the “The Great Migration” and what is its significance? Why did many call Harlem “The Black Mecca?”
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. (Required) How did the NAACP, UNIA-ACL, and NUL combine to influence the Renaissance? What methods did civil rights activists use to achieve their goals?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. (Required) Why did the Jazz Age take place after WWI? Why did “speakeasies” arise? What affect might they have had on African American culture? How did these clubs lead whites and African Americans to mingle?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. (Required) What event caused the end of the Harlem Renaissance? Why did this cause the end?

5. (Optional) To what extent did the Great Depression end the Harlem Renaissance? Did the Harlem Renaissance ever really end? Predict why or why not using your knowledge of the last 80 years.

**Philosophy Leading to the Harlem Renaissance**

1. (Required) Read W.E.B. Dubois' essay "Strivings of the Negro People." While you are reading, find three quotes that help to summarize the philosophy of Dubois. Once you have finished reading, write a summary of the piece. Use quotes in your summary and analyze how they are representative of the piece. How might the philosophy of Dubois have affected the Harlem Renaissance? See the WebQuest rubric to find out how I will be grading this section of the worksheet.

2. (Optional) Read “Harlem” by Alain Locke. Briefly summarize the main ideas Locke presents. Then, compare and contrast “Strivings of the Negro People” and “Harlem.” Which is more effective in your opinion? Justify your answer.

### **Literature of the Harlem Renaissance**

1. (Required) Read the short biography of Langston Hughes. What are three main events from his life that may have shaped his beliefs and writings? How might they have affected his beliefs and writings?

2. (Required) Read “Harlem” at least twice. Read the entire poem during the first reading so that you can gain a general idea of the poem. On the second reading, focus on the imagery Hughes uses to convey his message (especially the image of a raisin in the sun). Once you have read at least twice, write an analysis of “Harlem” with a focus on the images he uses to describe “A dream deferred.” Are these images effective in conveying a message? What message?

3. (Required) Choose either Claude McKay or Paul Laurence Dunbar. Read the biography of the poet you choose. Once you have chosen a poet and read his biography and all of the poems in his section (the combined length of the poems is about equal). Then, choose one of the poems to analyze with more depth. Again, focus on the imagery the poet uses to convey a message in your analysis. What is the message?

4. (Optional) Choose the poet whose poems you did not analyze to this point. Read the biography of this poet. Then, choose one of the poems to analyze with more depth. Again, focus on the imagery the poet uses to convey a message in your analysis. What is the message?

**Music of the Harlem Renaissance**

1. (Required) Look at the interactive jazz photo as a whole. Record your observations. Then, locate three scenes in the photo that strike you as particularly interesting. Click on those scenes to zoom in on the photo. Read the description of the scene. Record your observations. Finally, click on three particular people in the photo. Record your observations.

Observation of Photo as a Whole:

Observation of 1<sup>st</sup> Scene Selected:

Observation of 2<sup>nd</sup> Scene Selected:

Observation of 3<sup>rd</sup> Scene Selected:

2. (Optional) How does this photography embody what you know of Jazz music from the Harlem Renaissance?

3. (Required) Read the Biography of Ella Fitzgerald. Pick three major events from her life that likely had major impacts on her music. Explain why you chose those events.

4. (Required) Read the quotes by Ella Fitzgerald (not quotes of others talking about her) and pick one that strikes you as particularly interesting/important. Why do you find the quote you chose interesting/important?

5. (Required) Using your own headphones or headphones that I supply, watch and listen to the YouTube video of Fitzgerald singing “I Gotta Right to Sing the Blues.” Make notes of the dress, instruments, rhythm, and lyrics of the song. Pick one or two lines from the song that best characterize it. Feel free to watch the video twice to make your observations more concrete.

6. (Optional) Pick one of the photos of Ella Fitzgerald. Write a short creative piece from the perspective of Fitzgerald in the photo. What might she be thinking/feeling in the photo?

7. (Required) Go to the timeline of Louis Armstrong's life. Pick one event from the 1900s, 1910s, and 1920s that you think was most influential in his life during that decade. Write what the event is below and why you think it was most influential during that decade.

8. (Required) First, continue reading the events from Armstrong's life up until the point of his death in 1971. Then, watch (while wearing headphones) the video of Louis singing "What a Wonderful World." Because this performance occurred three years before Armstrong's death, he was likely remembering key events from his life while singing the song. What events from Armstrong's life do you think he was remembering with fondness that led him to describe the world as "wonderful?" Why did you choose those events to highlight? How do the events you picked relate to the Harlem Renaissance?