

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Study Guide – “A Raisin in the Sun”

#### **Act 1, Scene 1**

1. Describe how the apartment looks.
2. Where does each of the 5 members of the Younger family sleep?
3. Why is Ruth angry with Walter?
4. What does Ruth do when Walter tells her that she looks young?
5. What does Travis’ teacher want the students to bring to class?
6. Why doesn’t Ruth give Travis any money?
7. Why does Walter give Travis more money than he requested?
8. What plan is Walter making with Willy and Bobo?
9. What are Beneatha’s future plans?
10. How do Walter and Beneatha feel about each other’s future plans?
11. What does Mama look like?

12. How does Mama spoil Travis?
13. Why does Ruth encourage Mama to give Walter some money?
14. How did Big Walter feel about children?
15. What activities has Beneatha been involved with and then abandoned?
16. Describe Beneatha's relationship with George Murchison.
17. What do Beneatha and Mama argue about after Mama says, "God willing"?
18. What happens to Ruth at the end of the scene?

### **Act 1, Scene 2**

1. What are Beneatha and Mama doing as the scene opens?
2. Why does Beneatha feel that Asagai will not care about the apartment being in disarray?
3. Who is Asagai?
4. What news does Ruth tell Beneatha after returning home?
5. How does Beneatha react to the news initially?
6. Why does Mama help Ruth leave the room when Asagai arrives?

7. What does Asagai bring to Beneatha?
8. What does Asagai suggest is wrong with Beneatha's hair?
9. Explain Beneatha and Asagai's disagreement about different types of love.
10. What does Mama speak to Asagai about when she meets him?
11. How does Mama react to Mrs. Johnson's about not having much cleanser?
12. What does Mama say she would do with the money if it weren't for her children?
13. What does Mama say when Walter shows her the liquor store plans?
14. Why does Ruth offer to go out with Walter?
15. How does Walter react?
16. How does Walter feel about the future?
17. What does Walter say when Mama tells him Ruth is expecting a baby and is thinking about having an abortion?
18. Why does Mama call Walter a disgrace to his father's memory?

## **Act 2, Scene 1**

1. How is Beneatha dressed for her date?
2. Describe the dance she is doing.
3. What does Walter do when he sees her?
4. How does George react to the scene of Beneatha and Walter dancing?
5. What has Beneatha done to her hair?
6. Describe George's attitude toward Beneatha's hair and clothes.
7. How does Beneatha describe "assimilationist Negroes"?
8. What does Ruth speak to George about while Beneatha is changing her clothes?
9. How do George and Walter get along?
10. How does George address Walter as he's walking out the door?
11. What do Ruth and Walter do immediately after George and Beneatha leave?
12. Why does Ruth always try to feed Walter?
13. What did Mama do with the money?
14. How does Ruth respond to the news?
15. How does Walter respond to the news?
16. What kind of people live in Clybourne Park?

## **Act 2 Scene 2**

1. What is different about the apartment as the scene opens?
2. Why is George frustrated with Beneatha?
3. What does Beneatha call George after he leaves?
4. How does Mama feel about Mrs. Johnson's visit?
5. What news does Mrs. Johnson come to share with the Younger family?
6. How does Mama respond when Mrs. Johnson says there is nothing wrong with being a chauffeur?
7. What has Walter been doing instead of going to work?
8. What does Mama tell Walter to do with the rest of the money?
9. Why does she give him the money?
10. How does Walter respond to her generosity?
11. How does Walter treat Travis when he enters?
12. What does Walter want to talk about with Travis?
13. Why does Walter tell Travis he can't drive a bus for a living?
14. How does Walter envision his life as a businessman?
15. What does Walter hope to do for Travis when he turns 17 years old?

16. What does Walter do to Travis just before the lights go dark?

### **Act 2, Scene 3**

1. What day is it when the scene opens?
2. What does Ruth plan to do once they get to the new house?
3. What did Ruth and Walter do the night before?
4. Describe the mood in the apartment after Walters enters.
5. Who does Karl Lindner represent?
6. How does Beneatha act toward the visitor?
7. How does Mr. Lindner feel about his visit to the Youngers?
8. How does Mr. Lindner describe the families in Clybourne Park?
9. What does Mr. Lindner offer to the Youngers?
10. How does Walter respond to Mr. Lindner's offer?
11. What does Ruth say the families in Clybourne Park are afraid of?
12. Why does Mama plan to take her old plant to the new house?
13. What present do Walter, Ruth, and Beneatha give to Mama?
14. How do each of the family members react to Travis' gift to Mama?

15. What does Bobo come to tell Walter?

16. What does Mama do when she learns what happened?

### **Act 3**

1. How has the mood shifted from the beginning of Act 2, Scene 3?

2. How does Beneatha characterize Walter's investment?

3. Why did Beneatha want to be a doctor?

4. Why does Beneatha feel that there is no reason to hope or try to achieve?

5. What does Asagai mean when he says that he "lives the answer"?

6. How does Beneatha react to Asagai's marriage proposal?

7. What does Mama think the apartment is a mess?

8. Why is Ruth desperate to change Mama's mind?

9. Who did Walter call?

10. What does Walter say he learned from Willy?

11. What does Mama mean when she says that Walter is making "something inside (her) cry"?

12. Why won't Walter have anything left, according to Mama, if he does business with Mr. Lindner?

13. Who supports Walter's plan?

14. How does Mr. Lindner refer to the Youngers?

15. Why does Mama tell Travis to stay after Mr. Lindner arrives?

16. What is the last thing Mama does?