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NATIONALITY

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PRAISED FOR

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QUOTE



PREVIEW

NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE



EDUCATION
& CAREER

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CRITICIZED FOR

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MAJOR OBSTACLE

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PASSION / TALENT

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PERSONAL LIFE

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PREVIEW

2 MAJOR LIFE EVENTS

PREVIEW

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BIRTH DATE

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PREVIEW

3 ADJECTIVES

NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE

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DEATH DATE

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Literary Legends Author Study Project Rubric

	20	15	10	5
Research	The group conducts thorough research on the author. The group demonstrates a deep understanding of the historical context and events related to the person's life. The project depicts important events of the author's life accurately and specifically. The group includes meaningful information.	The group conducts research on the author. The group demonstrates a basic understanding of the historical context and events related to the person's life. The project depicts some important events of the author's life accurately and specifically. The group includes mostly meaningful information.	The group conducts some research on the author. The group demonstrates an elementary understanding of the historical context and events related to the person's life. The project depicts events of the author's life that are moderately unclear or inaccurate. The group includes a fair amount of meaningful information.	The group conducts little research on the author. The group does not demonstrate an understanding of the historical context and events related to the person's life. The project depicts unimportant events of the author's life that are inaccurate and ambiguous. The group mainly includes nonessential information.
Overall Appearance	The overall appearance is exceptionally creative and aesthetically pleasing. The graphic elements are skillfully and neatly colored. The written text is distinct and easy to read.	The overall appearance is creative and aesthetically pleasing. The graphic elements are neatly colored for the most part. The written text is easy to see and read.	The overall appearance is somewhat creative and acceptably attractive. The graphic elements are colored completely, though slightly messy. The written text is visible and decently readable.	The overall appearance is messy and not attractive to look at. The graphic elements are not colored completely. The written text is difficult to see and comprehend.
Participation	All students in the group are on task, and everyone completes his/her individual role. All group members contribute to the planning, research, and execution of the project. Group members follow directions and complete the project on time.	Mostly all students in the group are on task, and majority of the members complete his/her individual role. Most of the group members contribute to the planning, research, and execution of the project. Most of the group members follow directions and complete the project on time.	Some of the students in the group are on task, and some group members complete his/her individual role. Some of the group members contribute to the planning, research, and execution of the project. Some of the group members follow directions and complete the project on time.	The students in the group are seldom on task, and less than half of the group members complete his/her individual role. The group members scarcely spend time planning and researching for the project. Hardly any of the group members follow directions nor complete the project on time.
Cooperation	The group works together to create a well-executed project. Students respect one another and encourage the ideas and efforts of others in a cooperative manner. The group demonstrates a positive attitude towards the project.	The group works together to create a completed project. Students mostly respect one another and maybe encourage the ideas and efforts of others. The group demonstrates a positive attitude towards the project.	The group sometimes works together, but mostly works independently to create a completed project. Students sometimes respect one another and tolerate the ideas and efforts of others. The group demonstrates a somewhat positive attitude towards the project.	The group does not work together in order to complete the project. Students show minimal respect for one another and struggle to tolerate the ideas and efforts of others in a decent manner. The group demonstrates a negative attitude towards the project.
Attention to Detail	Writing contains 0-1 errors in grammar, punctuation, or spelling. The group thoroughly and effectively completes all the project requirements.	Writing contains maybe 2-3 errors in grammar, punctuation, or spelling, but it does not distract the reader from the overall content. The group completes all of the project requirements.	Writing contains 3-4 errors in grammar, punctuation, or spelling that somewhat distract the reader from the content. The group completes most of the project requirements.	Writing contains more than 4 errors in grammar, punctuation, or spelling that distract the reader from the content. The group completes some of the project requirements.

Group Members:

Additional Comments:

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Collaborative Author Study Project

Objective: Research a specific author in order to learn about his/her career, life, and notable achievements. Create an attractive poster that includes a colored illustration of the author and presents the most crucial information from your research.

1. The poster is comprised of 6 separate pieces of paper. Evenly distribute the pieces of the poster amongst the members in your group.
2. Look for reputable sources of information and websites from credible organizations. Research the author, specifically using the categories you are assigned. Take notes on your findings, but don't write directly on your poster just yet. Write down your notes on the brainstorming worksheet.
3. Examine and analyze the information you've gathered. Compare notes with your group members and remove any repeated or redundant information. Choose essential information that you will use to fill in the appropriate boxes on your pieces of paper. Proofread, revise, and edit the information you've found. Make sure the information you gathered is written in your own words.
4. Neatly copy your final drafts of information onto your poster. Use dark pen or marker. (You can use pencil to begin with and then trace over the pencil with a darker pen).
5. Collaborate with your group to choose a color scheme for your poster. Each group member should color an equal number of pages. You can use crayons, colored pencils, markers, glitter, and other crafting materials. The poster must be entirely colored.
6. Complete the project! Carefully cut along the dotted lines to retrieve the final 6 pieces of poster paper. Tape the 6 pieces of paper in their proper places, so that the illustration lines up correctly.



Author Study Project

Brainstorming Worksheet

First, research your author and write your findings here. Next, transfer your answers to the boxes on your poster. Each box on your poster should include 1-3 sentences.

NATIONALITY:

Where was the author born? What country is the author from? Where are the author's parents from?

PRAISED FOR:

Why is this author famous? What do people admire and celebrate about this author? List notable works.

CRITICIZED FOR:

What is the author judged for negatively? What is something the author has said or done that is not approved by others? Why do some people dislike this author?

MAJOR OBSTACLE:

What mental, physical, or emotional obstacles has the author had to overcome? What challenges or barriers, such as financial difficulties or health problems, did the author face?

TWO MAJOR LIFE EVENTS:

Briefly explain two major events that occurred in the author's life. A major life event is a significant occurrence that has a lasting impact on an individual's life. These events can be positive or negative.

BIRTH DATE:

When was the author born? Be as specific as possible.

QUOTE:

Choose a quote by the author. Include the context of the quote. When was it said? Is it a line from a novel? A poem? An interview? Explain the meaning of the quote.

PREVIEW

EDUCATION AND CAREER:

Where and when did the author attend school? What career choices led this person to become a successful author? When did this person become an author? When did the author achieve fame?

PASSION/TALENT:

What skills or talents does the author possess? What beliefs, ideals, or goals does the author have strong feelings about? What activities is the author enthusiastic about (what brings him/her joy)?

PERSONAL LIFE:

What are at least two facts about the author's personal life? For example: Is the author married? Does the author have children? Does the author have siblings? Who is the author's closest ally or friend?

THREE ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HIM/HER:

List three personality traits that describe the author.

DEATH DATE OR AGE IF STILL LIVING:

When did the author pass away? If the author is still living, what is his/her age?

Toni Cade Bambara Answer Key
Author Study Project

First, research your author and write your findings here. Next, transfer your answers to the boxes on your poster. Each box on your poster should include 1-3 sentences.

NATIONALITY:

Where was the author born? What country is the author from? Where are the author's parents from?

Toni Cade Bambara, born as Miltona Mirkin Cade, was African-American. She was born in New York City.

PRAISED FOR:

Why is this author famous? What do people admire and celebrate about this author? List notable works.

Toni wrote short stories, novels, essays, and plays. She was also a teacher, filmmaker, and social activist.

Her work is praised for illuminating the struggles of African-Americans while also advocating for social change and empowerment. Readers adore Bambara's powerful story-telling and representation of diverse characters in her work. Rather than using traditional linear plots, Bambara was known to use techniques such as flashbacks and stream of consciousness. Her most notable works include: "Gorilla, My Love", "The Salt Eaters", "The Seabirds Are Still Alive", "Tales and Stories for Black Folks", "Those Bones Are Not My Child", "The Lesson," "Raymond's Run", and "The Johnson Girls."

CRITICIZED FOR:

What is the author judged for negatively? What is something the author has said or done that is not approved by others? Why do some people dislike this author?

Some critics believed Bambara's work was too radical and politically charged.

MAJOR OBSTACLE:

What mental, physical, or emotional obstacles has the author had to overcome? What challenges or barriers, such as financial difficulties or health problems, did the author face?

Bambara came from a working-class family and thus experienced economic hardships throughout her life. Additionally, she lived during an era where racial discrimination was tolerated in certain places. She witnessed first-hand the inequalities in education, employment, housing, and more.

TWO MAJOR LIFE EVENTS:

Briefly explain two major events that occurred in the author's life. A major life event is a significant occurrence that has a lasting impact on an individual's life. These events can be positive or negative.

In 1961, Toni went to Europe to study acting and mime in Italy and in France. She also went as a personal journey to engage with different artistic communities and immerse herself in various cultural settings.

Bambara was highly regarded and critically acclaimed during her lifetime. Her novel "The Salt Eaters" won the American Book Award in 1981. That year she also won the Langston Hughes Society Award. She received both the Best Documentary Award from the Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters and a Documentary Award from the National Black Programming Consortium in 1986.

BIRTH DATE:

When was the author born? Be as specific as possible.

Toni Cade was born on March 25, 1939.

QUOTE:

Choose a quote by the author. Include the context of the quote. When was it said? Is it a line from a novel? A poem? An interview? Explain the meaning of the quote.

"As a culture worker who belongs to an oppressed people my job is to make revolution irresistible." Bambara believed in the power of words and sought to use her creative ability to inspire others to fight back against oppression.

EDUCATION AND CAREER:

Where and when did the author attend school? What career choices led this person to become a successful author? When did this person become an author? When did the author achieve fame?

Bambara earned her bachelor's degree for theater arts and English at Queens College in 1959. That same year she published "Sweet Town," her first short story. She then earned her masters from City College of the City University of New York. In 1965, she was hired to teach English at the City University of New York's fledgling SEEK program for economically-disadvantaged students. She became "famous" as a writer after her debut collection of short stories titled "Gorilla, My Love," was published in 1972. The immense amount of positive feedback established Bambara as a significant voice in African-American literature. From 1969 to 1974 she was an associate professor of English at Livingston College, and held various teaching positions at Duke University, Atlanta University and Spelman College.

PASSION/TALENT:

What skills or talents does the author possess? What beliefs, ideals, or goals does the author have strong feelings about? What activities is the author enthusiastic about (what brings him/her joy)?

Bambara spent most of her life dedicated to social activism. She used her platform to address social injustices and fought for causes related to civil rights, education, and the arts. Bambara fought for the rights of minorities, women, children, and the homeless. She also had a passion for dance, teaching, linguistics, theater, and mime.

PERSONAL LIFE:

What are at least two facts about the author's personal life? For example: Is the author married? Does the author have children? Does the author have siblings? Who is the author's closest ally or friend?

In 1970, Bambara had one daughter, named Karma Bene Bambara Smith, with her partner Gene Lewis. She was never married.

THREE ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HIM/HER:

List three personality traits that describe the author.

COMPASSIONATE, DETERMINED, BRAVE

DEATH DATE OR AGE IF STILL LIVING:

When did the author pass away? If the author is still living, what is his/her age?

Toni Cade Bambara died from colon cancer when she was only 56 years old. She passed away December 9, 1995. The following year, Toni Morrison posthumously published Bambara's "Deep Sightings and Rescue Mission."



NATIONALITY

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MAJOR OBSTACLE

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2 MAJOR LIFE EVENTS

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BIRTH DATE

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TONI CADE BAMBARA



QUOTE

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EDUCATION & CAREER

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PASSION / TALENT

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PERSONAL LIFE

In 1970, Bambara had one daughter, named Karma Bene Bambara Smith, with her partner Gene Lewis. She was never married.

3 ADJECTIVES

COMPASSIONATE

DETERMINED

BRAVE



DEATH DATE

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