

Cut Line



NATIONALITY

PREVIEW

LANG

NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE

HUG

PREVIEW

NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE



PRAISED FOR

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STON

QUOTE



PREVIEW

NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE

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EDUCATION
& CAREER

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NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE

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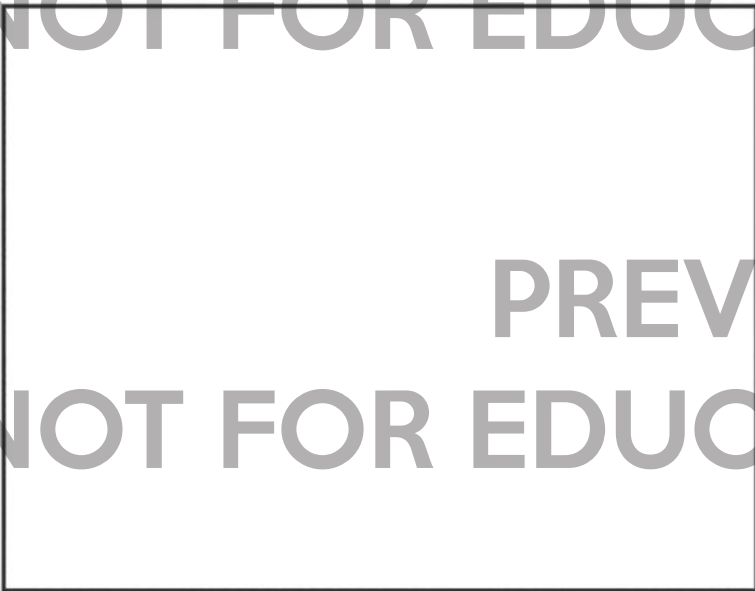
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CRITICIZED FOR



MAJOR OBSTACLE



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PASSION / TALENT

PREVIEW

NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE

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PERSONAL LIFE

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2 MAJOR LIFE EVENTS

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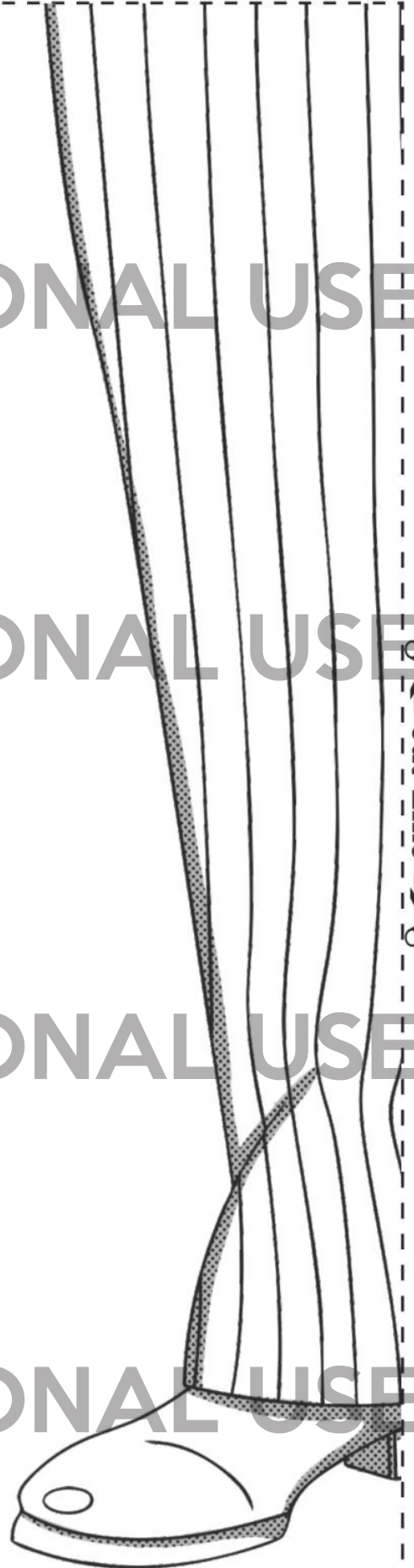
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BIRTH DATE

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PREVIEW

3 ADJECTIVES

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PREVIEW

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PREVIEW

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DEATH DATE

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NATIONALITY

Langston Hughes was American. He was born in Joplin, Missouri.

LANGSTON HUGHES

QUOTE

"Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die, life is a broken-winged bird that cannot fly." This quote is from Hughes poem "Dreams" published in 1923. He highlights the power of dreams and suggests a life without dreams is an empty, joyless life.

PRaised FOR

Langston Hughes was a beloved African American poet and playwright. He's best known for his honest and insightful portrayals of life as a Black American during the 1920s-1960s. He is still praised today for his contributions during the Harlem Renaissance. Jazz music played a role in his work, and inspired a new era of artistic expression.

EDUCATION & CAREER

Hughes attended school at Columbia University and Lincoln University. Hughes's first book of poetry, *The Weary Blues*, was published in 1926. His first novel, *Not Without Laughter*, was published in 1930 and won the Harriet Beecher Stowe Award for Literature. His writing career truly began in 1921 when his first poem, "The Negro Speaks of Rivers," was published in the magazine *Crisis*, an official publication of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

CRITICIZED FOR

Hughes's work was heavily criticized by Black and white critics alike. Many Black Americans resented the unattractive light Hughes portrayed African Americans. Hughes was thus named one of the Black culture, however, some of his peers were fearful that white people would only see African Americans as a disgrace and thought Black people should be only showing the world the best of themselves, police, money, etc.

PASSION / TALENT

Hughes was devoted to arts and culture. He used writing as a tool to promote equality and social justice, as well as spread awareness of the hardships African Americans faced. Hughes was passionate about celebration and preserving African American heritage and he did not concern himself with how others would view the honest experiences of being Black in America, especially during a time of prejudice.

MAJOR OBSTACLE

Langston Hughes grew up in a time period of relentless discrimination and racial inequality. Hughes was often faced with intolerance because he sought to challenge the dominant white cultural narrative and give a voice to the true African American experience. Despite the censorship he faced, he was the first Black American to earn a living from writing.

PERSONAL LIFE

Hughes was never married. One of his closest friends was famous author Zora Neale Hurston. They would collaborate together on work. Hughes was also close with his grandmother who would always tell him stories of history and culture. Hughes was raised by his grandmother until she passed away when he was thirteen years old.

2 MAJOR LIFE EVENTS

1. Hughes's parents divorced when he was a young child. He moved around a lot and held several odd jobs such as a cook, launderer, and doorman.
2. Hughes was assigned "class poet" in 8th grade and started writing poetry ever since.
3. Hughes moved to New York and became an integral part of the cultural movement of the Harlem Renaissance.

3 ADJECTIVES

Visionary
Poetic
Committed

BIRTHDATE

Langston Hughes was born February 1, 1902.

DEATHDATE

Hughes passed away May 22, 1967 due to complications from cancer.



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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?

Author Study Project

Langston Hughes

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?

Langston Hughes was American, and was born in Joplin, Missouri.

PRAISED FOR:

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

Langston Hughes was a beloved African American poet and playwright. He's best known for his honest and insightful portrayals of life as a Black American during the 1920s-1960s. He is still praised today for his contributions during the Harlem Renaissance. Jazz music played a role in his work and inspired a new era of artistic expression.

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?

Hughes's work was heavily criticized by black and white critics alike. Many black Americans resented the unattractive light Hughes portrayed them in. Hughes was unashamed of the black culture, however some of his peers were fearful what white people would only see African Americans as a disgrace and thought black people should be only showing the world their polished, polite mannerisms.

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?

Langston Hughes grew up in a time period of relentless discrimination and racial inequality. Hughes was often faced with intolerance because he sought to challenge the dominant white cultural narrative and give a voice to the true African American experience. Despite the censorship he faced, he was the first black American to earn a living from writing.

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.

Hughes's parents divorced when he was a young child. He moved around a lot and held several odd jobs such as a cook, launderer, and doorman. Hughes was assigned "class poet" in 8th grade and started writing poetry ever since. Hughes moved to New York and became an integral part of the cultural movement of the Harlem Renaissance.

BIRTH DATE:

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

February 1, 1902

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.

“Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die, life is a broken winged bird that cannot fly.”

This quote is from a poem titled “Dreams” published in 1923. Hughes highlights the power of dreams and suggests a life without dreams is an empty, joyless life.

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?

Hughes attended school at Columbia University and Lincoln University. Hughes’s first book of poetry *The Weary Blues* was published in 1926. His first novel *Not Without Laughter* was published in 1930 and won the Harmon Gold Medal for literature. His writing career truly began in 1921 when his first poem “The Negro Speaks of Rivers” was published in the magazine *Crisis*, an official publication of the NAACP.

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)?

Hughes was devoted to arts and culture. He used writing as a tool to promote equality and social justice as well as spread awareness of the hardships African Americans faced. Hughes was passionate about celebrating and preserving the African American heritage and he did not concern himself with how others would view the honest experiences of being black in America, especially during a time of mass prejudice.

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?

Hughes was never married. One of his closest friends was Zora Neale Hurston. They would collaborate together on work. Hughes was also close with his grandmother who would always tell him stories of history and culture. Hughes was raised by his grandmother until she passed away when he was thirteen years old.

THREE ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HIM/HER:

List three personality traits that describe the author.

Visionary
Poetic
Committed

DEATH DATE OR AGE IF STILL LIVING:

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

Hughes died on May 22, 1967, due to complications from cancer.