

Thank You, Ma'am by Langston Hughes

Digital Escape Room Teacher Instructions

Thank you for your purchase! Your students are going to love deciphering and solving puzzles in this educational, 360° digital escape room. This activity is designed to work for a laptop, tablet, or smart phone. Students will solve a series of clues based on the short story "Thank You, Ma'am" by Langston Hughes. Please do not share this link with other educators as it is my copyrighted work and against my terms of licensing. You can purchase additional licenses in my [TpT store](#).

Have your students work independently or in teams, it's up to you! Included in this download are teacher instructions, student instructions, the master lock graphic organizer, answer keys, and a reflection sheet. Students might find it easier to solve clues #2 and #3 with pencil and scrap paper, so you can direct them to use the back of their graphic organizers if they need to. While using this resource, you must have a wi-fi connection and the ability to access the following sites: kuula.co, Google Forms, youtube.com, and JigsawPlanet.com

Thank You Ma'am Escape Room

1. Share directions with your students digitally (it includes the link to the escape room) and pass out the Master Lock graphic organizer.
2. Verbally review the rules with your students.
3. Set a timer for 45 minutes using a classroom timer or use an online [free countdown timer](#); make sure students are aware that they are being timed. Timing students is completely optional! You can certainly extend the time beyond 45 minutes as well.
4. Upon entering the room, have your students start by clicking the "Start Here" button. This will give students background as to why they are locked in the room and why they must escape. The six clues are labeled by number, but technically can be solved in any order. For every clue students figure out, they must record their answers on their master lock graphic organizer. The "Master Lock" (a google form) requires six correct answers from all six clues and is mandatory for students to "escape." They can find the Master Lock located on the door when they are ready to escape.
5. Once the time is up, you can have students fill out a reflection sheet (optional).





The Master Lock



Clue Number	Answers
Clue #1	
Clue #2	
Clue #3	
Clue #4	
Clue #5	
Clue #6	

A	
B	
C	
D	
E	
F	
G	2
H	
I	
J	
K	
L	22
M	5
N	26
O	13
P	
Q	
R	9
S	18
T	17
U	
V	
W	15
X	
Y	
Z	

CLUE 1

Each letter corresponds to a number and vice versa. Complete the partially finished phrase by guessing the missing letters. As you guess letters correctly, you will find that the puzzle becomes easier and easier.

$\frac{\text{O}}{10}$ $\frac{\text{W}}{13}$ $\frac{\text{M}}{15}$ $\frac{\text{N}}{5}$ $\frac{\text{N}}{1}$ $\frac{\text{N}}{26}$ $\frac{\text{N}}{24}$

$\frac{\text{O}}{3}$ $\frac{\text{L}}{13}$ $\frac{\text{L}}{22}$ $\frac{\text{L}}{22}$ $\frac{\text{S}}{1}$ $\frac{\text{S}}{9}$ $\frac{\text{S}}{18}$

$\frac{\text{O}}{3}$ $\frac{\text{O}}{13}$ $\frac{\text{S}}{16}$ $\frac{\text{S}}{18}$ $\frac{\text{T}}{17}$ $\frac{\text{T}}{10}$ $\frac{\text{T}}{16}$

$\frac{\text{W}}{15}$ $\frac{\text{O}}{13}$ $\frac{\text{M}}{5}$ $\frac{\text{N}}{1}$ $\frac{\text{N}}{26}$

$\frac{\text{N}}{10}$ $\frac{\text{N}}{1}$ $\frac{\text{N}}{26}$ $\frac{\text{O}}{3}$ $\frac{\text{T}}{17}$ $\frac{\text{O}}{13}$

$\frac{\text{O}}{9}$ $\frac{\text{G}}{13}$ $\frac{\text{G}}{2}$ $\frac{\text{G}}{16}$ $\frac{\text{G}}{9}$

Clue #2

Place the correct missing letters into the diagram to form words reading left to right. Then read the filled in letters from top to bottom to reveal your clue.

			B		O	K	E			
			M		N	E	Y			
		L	A	R						
			S	T		A	L			
			P	U		S	E			
						A	L	L	E	T
		W	O	M		N				
			H	U		G	R	Y		
			W	A		E	R			
						W	E	E	T	
						E	A	N	S	
			M	I		K				
			T	R		S	T			
	C	O	R	N		R				
						O	R	R	Y	
		E	N	O		G	H			
						A	S	I	L	Y
	B	L	O	N		E	S			
				B		H	A	V	E	

WHAT?

a	b	c	d	e	f
g	h	i	j	k	l
m	n	o	p	q	r

s	t
w	x
y	z

Clue #3

> □ □ □

✓ □ □ □ □

□ □ □ □ □


✓ □ ✓ □ ✓ □

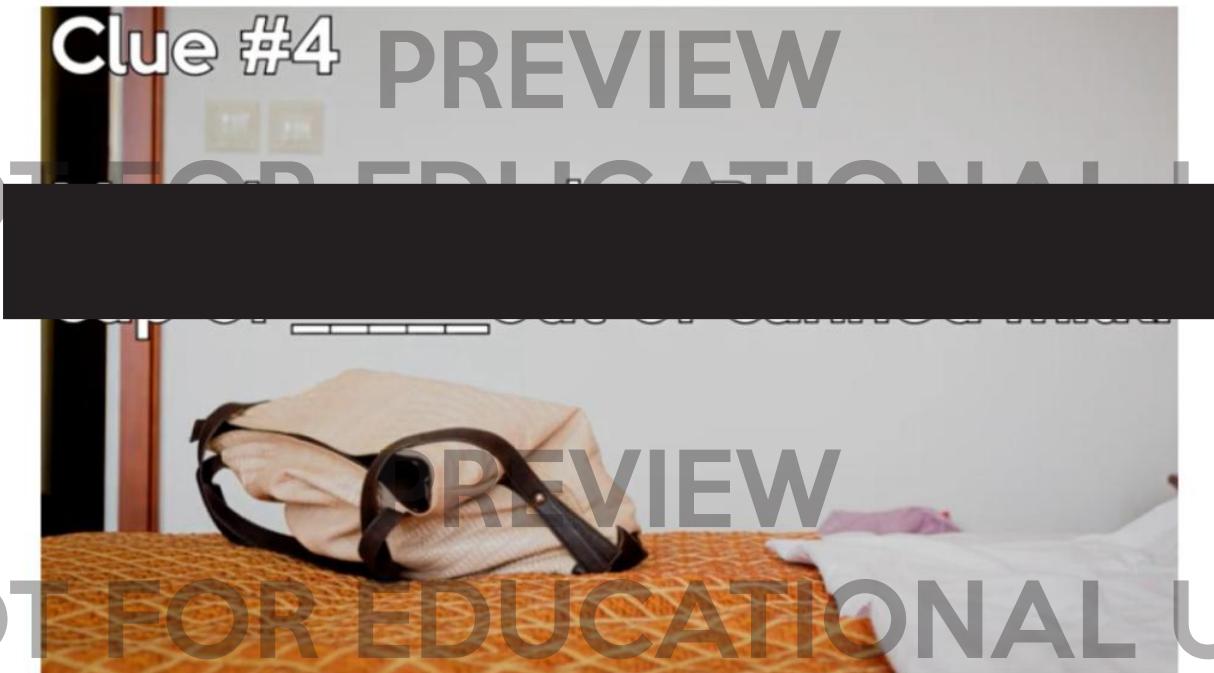
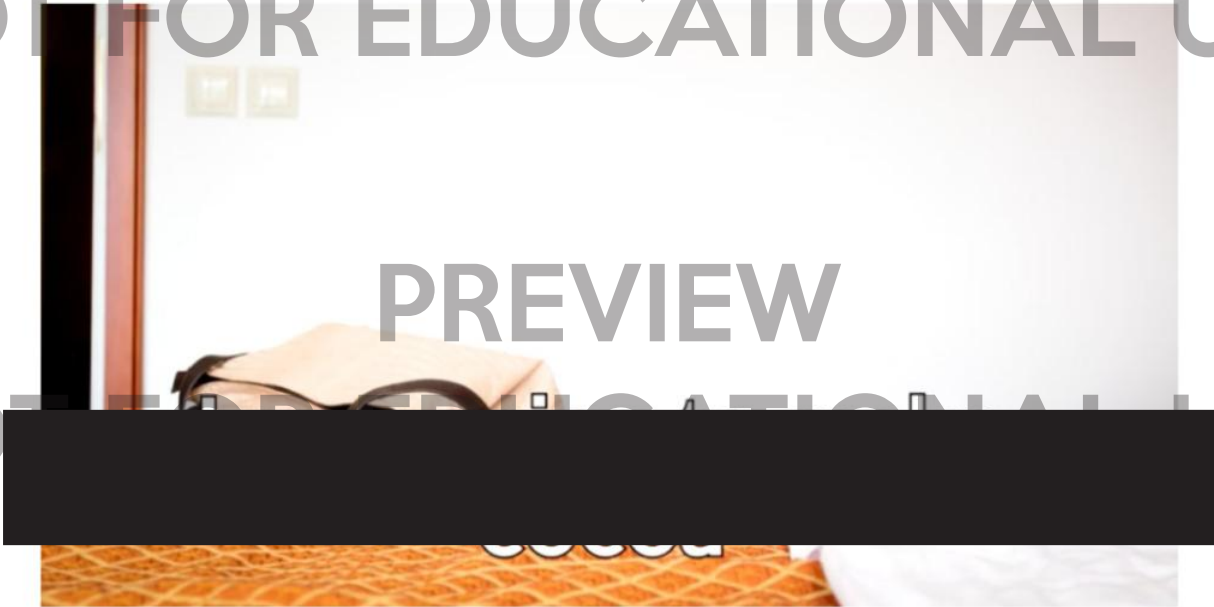
✓ □ □ ✓ □ □

✓ □ □

□ < □ ✓ □

Answer Guide Clue #4

Students will watch a YouTube video that features an excerpt from the short story "Thank You Ma'am". They will next be prompted to answer the following question: Mrs. Jones makes Roger a cup of _____ out of canned milk. **Answer:** 



Answer Key Clue #5

Students will solve the following jigsaw puzzle which reveals a question inside an image. The clue reads:
Where does Mrs. Jones work? **Answer:** [REDACTED]



Answer Guide Clue #6

Students will answer questions on a google form that refer to the short story "Thank You, Ma'am." The combination of letter answers in order is their clue #6 answer. **ANSWERS =** [REDACTED]

1. Which words best describe Mrs. Jones?

2. What can you infer about Mrs. Jones when she tells Roger get up and hand her back the pocketbook?

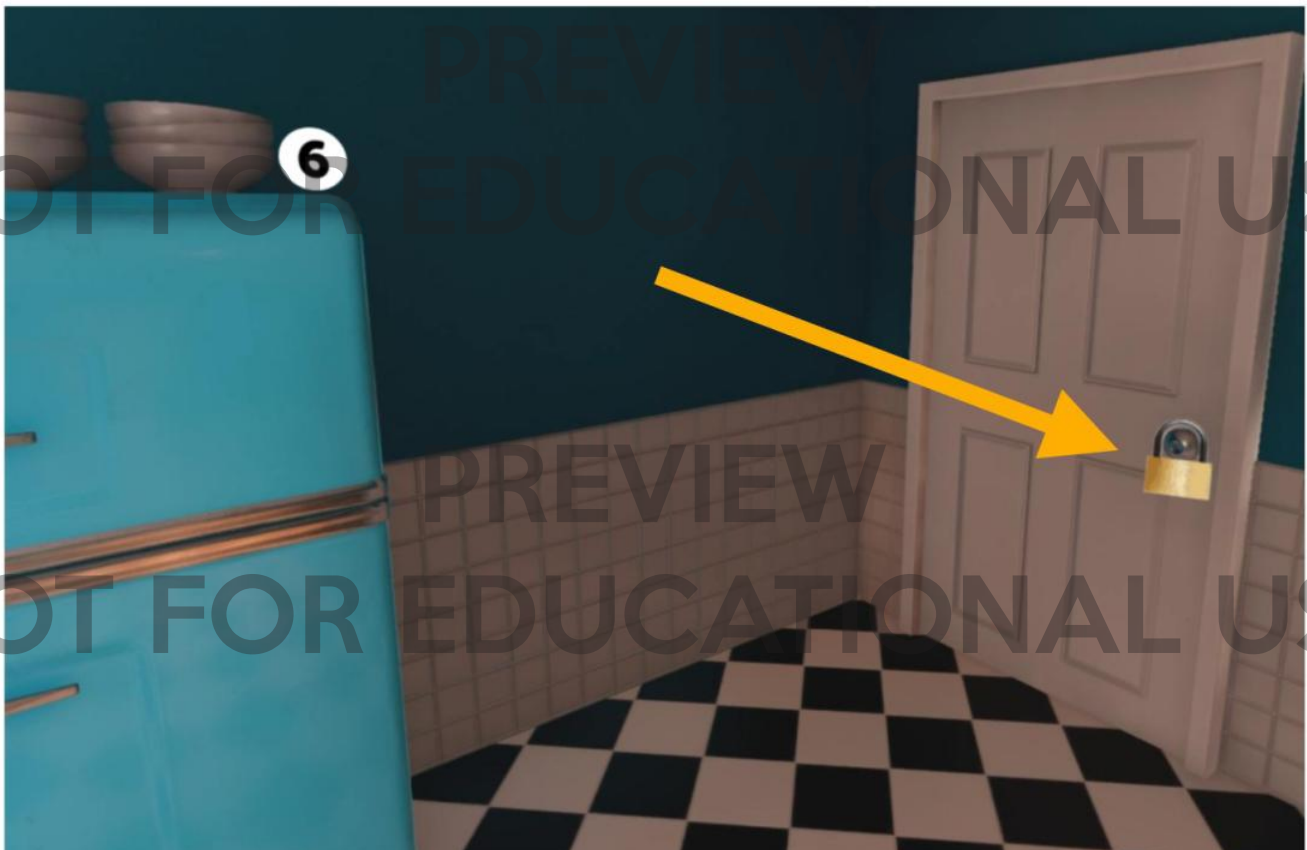
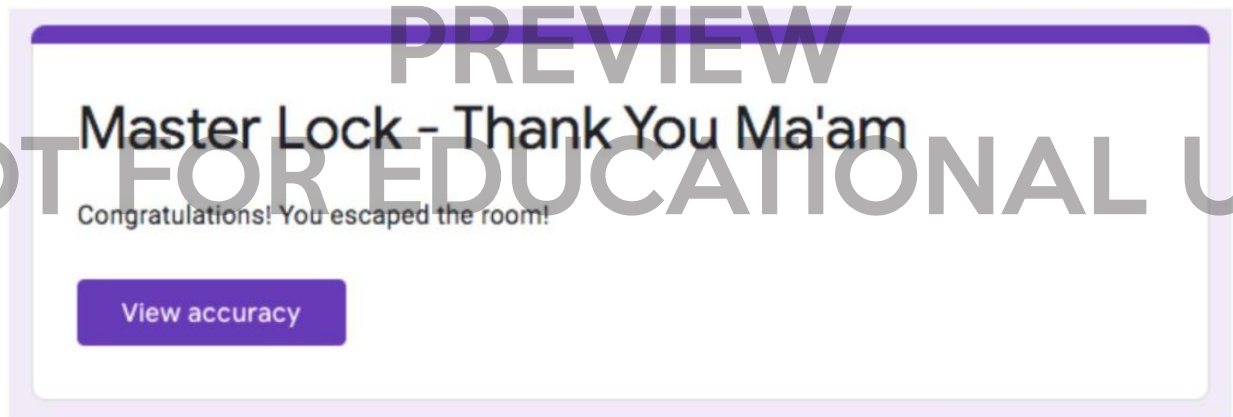
3. When Mrs. Jones turns her back on Roger while she cooks, she is showing him what?

4. What can the reader infer from the following lines...
"Ain't you got nobody home to tell you to wash your face?"
"No'm," said the boy.

5. How does Roger feel about Mrs. Jones by the end of the story?

Master Lock Guide

This is where students will find the google form to escape. They will type in all their answers from clues 1-6. If they are correct, they will get the screen that says "Congratulations!" (shown below).



Thank You, Ma'am

Digital Escape Room Reflection

Name:

Class:

Were you able to escape the room before the time was up?

What was your favorite part about the escape room?

What was one problem you encountered in the escape room?

Was there anything you found too confusing or too difficult to solve?

Would you like to do more escape rooms in the future?

Is there anything you would change about the activity today to enhance your experience?

If you worked in a group, how did all of the group members work together? Did everyone participate? Explain.