



A Raisin in the Sun WEBQUEST

READ DIRECTIONS FOR EACH TASK CAREFULLY, MAKING SURE THAT YOU FULLY COMPLETE EACH PART AND FINISH WITH A QUALITY END PRODUCT.

TASK 1: DEFINING THE AMERICAN DREAM **END PRODUCT: PERSONAL DEFINITION OF THE AMERICAN DREAM**

Write your own definition of the American Dream. (6pts.)

TASK 2: GETTING TO KNOW PLAYWRIGHT LORRAINE HANSBERRY **END PRODUCT: CREATE A BIOGRAPHY BOOK JACKET**

After you have read and analyzed each article, write your own 2-3 paragraph biography of Lorraine Hansberry that you might include on the inside jacket cover of the book. Include important biographical connections she had to her plays, and her purpose for becoming a writer.

TASK 3: EXAMINING CHICAGO SOUTHSIDE SETTING
END PRODUCT: JOURNAL ENTRY "PUTTING YOURSELF IN THEIR SHOES"

Examine the websites; read the articles and analyze the images featured on the sites. They capture what life was like for African Americans living in the South Side of Chicago during the 1940's and 1950's. What do they tell you about the society at the time? What might life have been like?

When you have finished reading the articles and viewing the photos, write a journal entry from the point of view of one of the figures you have seen in the photos. Your entry should describe what you have learned. Describe the picture you are writing about and the person in it. Use a photo from either City at a Crossroads or Chicago's Historic Southside. For this assignment, you may copy and paste the image onto a Word/Pages doc. and complete your writing on the same document.

TASK 5: EXAMINE THE OPENING POEM
END PRODUCT: MODEL POEM

The title "A Raisin in the Sun" comes from Langston Hughes' poem entitled "Harlem."

"Harlem"

What happens to a dream deferred?

Does it dry up

Like a raisin in the sun?

Or fester like a sore--

And then run?

Does it stink like rotten meat?

Or crust and sugar over--

like a syrupy sweet?

Maybe it just sags

like a heavy load.

Or does it explode?

According to this website, what is the theme of "Harlem"? _____

Do you think this theme fits with the poem? Why or why not?

List two literary elements that can be found in the poem and give an example of each:

Literary element: _____

Example: _____

Literary element: _____

Example: _____

Read through the commentary and tell what you think most likely happens to a "dream deferred" and explain why.

Read the poem "Harlem" by Langston Hughes and answer the questions.

1. What does the poem say?
2. What images does this poem create in your mind?
3. What emotions does this poem evoke?
4. What is the dream Hughes refers to in "Harlem"?
5. Why might it rather explode than dry up?
6. Why is the poem called "Harlem"?

Create your own poem using the following fill-in-the-blank format.

"_____ Deferred"

What happens to a _____ _____?
noun verb

Does it _____ _____
verb adverb

Like a _____ in the _____?
noun noun

Or _____ like a _____
verb noun

And then _____?
verb

Does it _____ like _____ _____?
verb adjective noun

Or _____ and _____ _____ --
verb verb adverb

like a _____ _____?
adjective noun

Maybe it _____
adverb verb

like a _____.
adjective noun

Or does it _____?
verb