



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



## LANGSTON HUGHES'S "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?*

**PART I:** "Harlem" by Langston Hughes contains many examples of figurative language. Underline, highlight and/or label instances of similes, metaphors, anaphora and other literary devices in the poem above.

**PART II:** Draw a picture inspired by the imagery in Hughes's "Harlem." What does "a dream deferred" look like to you?





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**PART III:** Write a poem inspired by Hughes's "Harlem." First, list some dreams (big or small) that you want to accomplish in life. Then, on the next page, write a poem about how these dreams might affect your life. You can use the writing prompts below to help you get started.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### Writing Prompts

- My dream of \_\_\_\_\_ makes me feel \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- If I didn't achieve my dream, I would feel like \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- My dream makes me think about the color \_\_\_\_\_ and the season \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The person who inspires me most is \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The question I ask myself every day is, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Poem:** \_\_\_\_\_