

Standard(s) Covered: LA 8.1.5, 8.1.6, 8.2.1, 8.2.2, 8.2.3, 8.3

Essential Questions

What is the Harlem Renaissance and how do I follow the legacy of its authors?
How can I create a question that guides a research inquiry I care about?
How does poetry take a stand, analyze society, and express a poet's views?
How do I overcome stereotyping and labels?
How do I communicate my identity to those around me effectively?

Objectives

Students will formulate, research, and describe a question or study topic about the Harlem Renaissance, relating its impact and contributions to modern American culture following MLA guidelines and research practices (Unit 6).
Students will annotate and journal on a daily poem, indicating the relationship between poetic devices and theme and/or author's purpose.
Students will analyze poetry for stereotypes and labeling in our culture today and how it impacts identity as expressed in <i>Bronx Masquerade</i> .
Students will read and inventory the twenty different characters of <i>Bronx Masquerade</i> , organizing literary themes that connect poetic devices to identity, the Harlem Renaissance, and the human experience.
Students will summarize the themes of <i>Bronx Masquerade</i> based upon the interconnectivity of stereotypes & labels, characters, and the yearlong theme of community (Unit 2).

Content

History of the Harlem Renaissance – Great Migration, Prohibition, Wealth Distribution, Entertainment, Education, Poetry, Art, & Music Harlem Renaissance poetry – Langston Hughes, Claude McKay, Georgia Douglass Johnson,
Poetic Devices notes/review – allegory, alliteration, assonance, cacophony, cliché, consonance, hyperbole, idiom, imagery, metaphor, onomatopoeia, personification, rhyme, simile, symbol
<i>Poetry Speaks: Who I Am</i> - assorted excerpts (Grimes, Frost, Pietri)
Defining Stereotyping & labels.
Character Study – physical & social descriptions, fears, dreams, themes, unifying traits across all characters
In-class reading of all character poems in <i>Bronx Masquerade</i>
<i>Bronx Masquerade</i> character, community, & plot discussions
Themes of <i>Bronx Masquerade</i> – physical appearance, self-expression, self-confidence, social/community acceptance, romantic love, personal loss, labels & stereotyping.

Assessment

Research-based, inquiry-driven Small Group presentations over a question and/or study topic with visual and verbal components (formative) (Covid-19)
Annotate poem of the day (formative)
Poetic Device quizzes (diagnostic, formative, and summative)
15-Minute Writes – Poetry analysis for theme and author's purpose, particularly stereotyping (formative)
<i>Bronx Masquerade</i> handouts on characters, themes, quotations, and essential questions (formative)
Character Comparison Chart (formative)
<i>Bronx Masquerade</i> comprehension test and poetry annotation test (summative) (Covid-19)
<i>Bronx Masquerade</i> Character & Community Essay (summative) (Covid-19)