

Harlem Renaissance Webquest

The Harlem Renaissance marked a cultural period during the 1920's when African-Americans celebrated their heritage through music, art, literature, politics and social movements. First, visit this [website](#) and read about the Harlem Renaissance.

Go [here](#) and answer the following questions:

1. What is another name for the Harlem Renaissance?
2. What contributed to the beginnings of this movement?
3. What were some common themes within the movement?
4. List at LEAST 5 major authors, musicians, or political leaders associated with this movement.
5. What was the Cotton Club?
6. Who was Marcus Garvey?
7. Even after this movement ended, what enduring influences did it have on future generations?

Poetry

Langston Hughes was a famous Harlem Renaissance poet. Like others, he developed themes that connected the African-American heritage to the present.

“The Negro Speaks of Rivers”

Listen to Langston Hughes reciting his poem. After answer the following questions:

1. How old was Langston Hughes when he wrote this poem?
2. What rivers does Langston Hughes mention and how do they connect the past to the present?
3. Think: How does Langston Hughes' verbal reading of the poem affect its overall tone?

Jazz

During the Harlem Renaissance, jazz and blues music spread from New Orleans to Harlem and all throughout the country. Ron Scott writes:

This improvisational music called jazz is a unique sound, colored with political and social ramifications, weaved with Black cultural threads. It's the voice of the ancestors who speak through these great master musicians and the younger generation.

Watch this [video](#) biography of Duke Ellington. Next, research for the following questions:

1. Who are three famous male and female jazz legends?
2. What themes about the African-American heritage resonate from the rhythms of jazz?

3. Think: In your own opinion, why might a jazz museum be important for current and future generations?

While she was just a child during the Harlem Renaissance, I can't help but want to have you learn about Ella Fitzgerald. [Here](#) is a great song she performed with Duke Ellington and one more to give a quick listen to, [How High the Moon](#). Give a brief bio of First Lady of Song and the Queen of Jazz and your thoughts on her scatting.

Finally choose an important figure during the Harlem Renaissance and give a summary on their impact on the movement.