

Name:

Day One

Langston Hughes: Proud Poet

Part 1: Silent read

→ Who was Langston Hughes? Read silently.

Langston Hughes was a great American writer. His work is full of feeling, confidence, and Black pride.

Langston was born into a remarkable family. His grandmother was a vocal supporter of Black rights. Her husband was an activist who had been killed while fighting to abolish slavery.

As a child, Langston rarely saw his father. His father hated America's relentless racism. He spent much of his life in Mexico. Langston, on the other hand, loved America in spite of its many problems.

Langston was a lonely child. He lived with his grandmother while his mother worked in another city. He missed his mother. His grandmother was strict and proud. She taught young Langston to be proud, too.

Langston loved to read, and found comfort in books. In high school, he found good friends from many races. He discovered early on that he had a talent for writing. He went to college at Columbia in New York City, but he met harsh anti-Black prejudice there. He left after one year.

Langston's most famous poems include "Dreams," "I, Too, Sing America," and "I've Known Rivers." Langston lived at an exciting time. Jazz was thriving in the cities. African American artists and writers were creating fresh, vibrant art. Langston made his home in Harlem, the heart of Black culture in America. He became one of the biggest stars of the Harlem Renaissance. Today, he is one of America's most beloved writers.



Day One

// one minute

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Part 2: First timed read

WPM _____

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Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

How did Langston Hughes feel about America?

What is one of Langston’s well-known poems?

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Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

- Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.
- Pause at each / mark for a phrase.
- Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

Langston Hughes was a great American writer. // His work is full of feeling, / confidence, / and Black pride. //

Langston was born into a remarkable family. // His grandmother was a vocal supporter / of Black rights. // Her husband was an activist / who had been killed / while fighting to abolish slavery. //

As a child, / Langston rarely saw his father. // His father hated / America’s relentless racism. // He spent much of his life in Mexico. // Langston, / on the other hand, / loved America in spite of its many problems. //

Langston was a lonely child. // He lived with his grandmother / while his mother worked in another city. // He missed his mother. // His grandmother was strict and proud. // She taught young Langston to be proud, / too. //

Langston loved to read, / and found comfort in books. // In high school, / he found good friends from many races. // He discovered early on / that he had a talent for writing. // He went to college at Columbia in New York City, / but he met harsh anti-Black prejudice there. // He left after one year. //

Langston’s most famous poems include / “Dreams,” / “I, Too, Sing America,” / and “I’ve Known Rivers.” // Langston lived at an exciting time. // Jazz was thriving in the cities. // African American artists and writers / were creating fresh, / vibrant art. // Langston made his home in Harlem, / the heart of Black culture in America. // He became one of the biggest stars / of the Harlem Renaissance. // Today, / he is one of America’s most beloved writers. //

I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.