

Name _____ Date _____

Langston Hughes



Langston Hughes was born in Joplin, Missouri on February 1, 1902. Later he moved to Kansas with his mother. He loved to visit his grandmother who lived nearby. She told him interesting and thrilling stories about his grandparents. He soon discovered that the wonderful world of books could bring him great pleasure. He loved to read everything like novels, plays and poetry. Hughes also began to write poetry.

Langston Hughes could not make his living by writing until he was about thirty. Until then he had many different jobs. He was a waiter's assistant, clerk, waiter and even a cook. During this time he traveled to Mexico, Haiti, France and Italy. He was encouraged by other people to keep writing and sending his work to publishers.

Langston Hughes is best known for his poetry. His poems about people's joys and sorrows are enjoyed by young and old. In addition to his poetry, Hughes has written novels, operas and plays. His writings have been translated into Chinese, French, Japanese and many other languages. He received many awards and honors for his outstanding writing. In 1953 he received the Ainsfeld Wolfe Award and in 1960 he won the Spingarn Medal, awarded every year to an African American person of outstanding achievement.

Fill in the blanks below with the correct word.

1. Langston Hughes was _____ in Missouri.
2. He _____ to Kansas.
3. Langston _____ to read.
4. Hughes began to _____ poetry.
5. Langston had many _____ jobs.
6. He _____ to Mexico, Haiti and France.
7. Some of his jobs were a _____ assistant, clerk and a cook.
8. Langston Hughes is best known for his _____.
9. He has written novels, _____ and plays.
10. His writings have been _____ into different languages.

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Circle the correct answer below.

- | | | |
|---|------|-------|
| 1. Langston Hughes was born in Missouri. | True | False |
| 2. Langston moved to Mexico. | True | False |
| 3. Langston was born in February. | True | False |
| 4. Langston hated to read books. | True | False |
| 5. Langston had many different jobs. | True | False |
| 6. Langston used to be a cook. | True | False |
| 7. Langston has been to Haiti and France. | True | False |
| 8. Langston Hughes is a poet. | True | False |
| 9. Langston Hughes wrote happy and sad poems. | True | False |
| 10. Young and old people like his poems. | True | False |
| 11. Langston's poems were translated into Spanish. | True | False |
| 12. Langston received many awards. | True | False |
| 13. Langston never received any honors. | True | False |
| 14. He received the Ainsfeld Wolfe Award in 1960. | True | False |
| 15. The Spingarn Award is awarded to an African American. | True | False |
| 16. Langston won the Spingarn Award in 1960. | True | False |

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Langston Hughes - Answers

Page 1:

1. Langston Hughes was **born** in Missouri.
2. He **moved** to Kansas.
3. Langston **loved** to read.
4. Hughes began to **write** poetry.
5. Langston had many **different** jobs.
6. He **traveled** to Mexico, Haiti and France.
7. Some of his jobs were a **waiter's** assistant, clerk and a cook.
8. Langston Hughes is best known for his **poetry**.
9. He has written novels, **operas** and plays.
10. His writings have been **translated** into different languages.

Circle the correct answer below.

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