

1 ☐ **January 10, 2020**

What was the Harlem Renaissance?

DO NOW: Please take your seats as quickly as you can.

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The "Era of Wonderful Nonsense"

Following the Latest Fads

A. Fad = activity or fashion that is very popular for a short time

B. flagpole sitting, dance marathons, mah-jongg, crossword puzzles, the Charleston

Flappers Set the Style

A. Flappers - young women who rebelled against tradition

B. Wore their hair and dresses short & bright red lipstick, smoked in public, drank alcohol in speak-easies, drove fast cars ...

C. Their appearance & behavior was shocking to the older generation, who thought it was immodest & immoral.

D. Others viewed them as trend-setters who gave women a new sense of freedom.

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MOVIES and RADIO

A. Mass Media: forms of communication, such as newspapers and radio, that reach the masses (millions of people)

B. Technology and fewer working hours led to more leisure time

A. Enjoy newspapers, magazines, records, radio and movies

B. Radio brought entertainment into peoples homes

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• <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RdfrC7zz8Nc>

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7 ☐ **What is it?**

• The Harlem Renaissance was a flowering of African American social thought which was expressed through

– Paintings

– Music

– Dance

– Theater

– Literature

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9 ☐ **Where was the Harlem Renaissance centered?**

- Centered in the Harlem district of New York City, the *New Negro Movement* (as it was called at the time) had a major influence across the United States and even the world.

10 ☐ **How does the Harlem Renaissance connect to the Great Migration?**

- The economic opportunities of the era triggered a widespread migration of black Americans from the rural south to the industrial centers of the north - and especially to New York City.
- In New York and other cities, black Americans explored new opportunities for intellectual and social freedom.
- Black American artists, writers, and musicians began to use their talents to work for civil rights and obtain equality.

11 ☐ **How did it impact history?**

- The Harlem Renaissance helped to redefine how Americans and the world understood African American culture. It integrated black and white cultures, and marked the beginning of a black urban society.
- The Harlem Renaissance set the stage for the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 60s.
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12 ☐ **Who do we associate with the Harlem Renaissance?**

- Artists such as Jacob Lawrence
- Authors such as Langston Hughes
- Musicians such as Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, and Bessie Smith

13 ☐ **Jacob Lawrence**

- Jacob Lawrence grew up in a settlement house in Harlem during the Harlem Renaissance
- Lawrence's parents were among those who migrated between 1916-1919, considered the first wave of the migration.
- His own life in Harlem , and the struggle of other Black Americans inspired his earliest work

14 ☐ **Lawrence's Work**

- Jacob Lawrence painted his Great Migration series during the 1940s to capture the experience of African Americans during the 1920s
<http://www.columbia.edu/itc/history/odonnell/w1010/edit/migration/migration.html>

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16 ☐ **Langston Hughes**

- Hughes is known for his insightful, colorful, realistic portrayals of black life in America.
- He wrote poetry, short stories, novels, and plays, and is known for his involvement with the world of jazz and the influence it had on his writing.
- His life and work were enormously important in shaping the artistic contributions of the Harlem Renaissance in the 1920s.
- He wanted to tell the stories of his people in ways that reflected their actual culture, including both their suffering and their love of music, laughter, and language itself.
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17 ☐18 ☐ **I, too, sing America**19 ☐20 ☐ **Duke Ellington**

- Ellington was a jazz composer, conductor, and performer during the Harlem Renaissance.
- During the formative Cotton Club years, he experimented with and developed the style that would quickly bring him worldwide success. Ellington would be among the first to focus on musical form and composition in jazz.
- Ellington wrote over 2000 pieces in his lifetime.
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21 ☐ **The Cotton Club**

- The Duke Ellington Orchestra was the "house" orchestra for a number of years at the Cotton Club. The revues featured glamorous dancing girls, acclaimed tap dancers, vaudeville performers, and comics. All the white world came to Harlem to see the show.
- The first Cotton Club revue was in 1923. There were two new fast paced revues produced a year for at least 16 years.

22 ☐23 ☐ **Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong**

- Louis Armstrong was a jazz composer and trumpet player during the Harlem Renaissance.
- He is widely recognized as a founding father of jazz.
- He appeared in 30 films and averaged 300 concerts per year, performing for both kids on the street and heads of state.

24 ☐25 ☐ **Bessie Smith**

- Bessie Smith was a famous jazz and blues singer during the Harlem Renaissance.
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- Smith recorded with many of the great Jazz musicians of the 1920s, including Louis

Armstrong.

- Smith was popular with both blacks and whites

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