



YONKERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

US History and Government
Regents Review

Harlem Renaissance

HARLEM RENAISSANCE One of the most important cultural movements of the 1920s was the **Harlem Renaissance**, led by a group of African American writers in the New York City neighborhood of Harlem. These creative intellectual figures—mainly well-educated members of the middle class—felt alienated from the society of the 1920s. In their works they called for action against bigotry and expressed pride in African American culture and identity. Outstanding literary figures of the Harlem Renaissance include W.E.B. Du Bois, Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Hurston, and Alain Locke.

The Great Depression of the 1930s ended the Harlem Renaissance, cutting the sales of books and literary magazines. However, during the civil rights movement of the 1960s, the writers of the Harlem Renaissance and their works attracted renewed interest.

African American artists, musicians, and dancers also participated in the Harlem Renaissance. Black musicians in the South blended elements of African, European, and American music to create the distinctive sounds of jazz and the blues. This music was carried all over the country and abroad.

Name: _____

- 1) Which event of the 1920's was most inconsistent with the racial and ethnic intolerance of the decade?
 - 1) resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan
 - 2) Red Scare
 - 3) Harlem Renaissance
 - 4) Sacco-Vanzetti trial

- 2) A result of the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920's was the
 - 1) end of racial segregation laws in New York State
 - 2) appointment of several African Americans as presidential advisors
 - 3) increased recognition of African-American writers and musicians
 - 4) restoration of buildings and the infrastructure in New York City

- 3) Langston Hughes, Bessie Smith, and Duke Ellington are most closely associated with the
 - 1) Cold War
 - 2) Harlem Renaissance
 - 3) Populist movement
 - 4) Gilded Age

- 4) This poem was a literary contribution from the
 - 1) abolitionist movement
 - 2) Harlem Renaissance
 - 3) Prohibition movement
 - 4) Progressive Era

- 5) The *main* purpose of this poem was to
 - 1) promote the back-to-Africa movement
 - 2) maintain separation of the races
 - 3) end the institution of slavery
 - 4) demonstrate self-respect by African Americans

- 6) Participants in the Harlem Renaissance encouraged black Americans to
 - 1) demand political supremacy
 - 2) take violent action against the government
 - 3) take pride in their culture
 - 4) leave the South and come to the North

- 7) The Harlem Renaissance can *best* be described as a
 - 1) new era in Broadway musicals
 - 2) black expression of racial heritage
 - 3) revival of Dutch culture in New York City
 - 4) renewal of religious fundamentalism

Questions 4 and 5 refer to the following:

"I, TOO, SING AMERICA"

I, too, sing America.
I am the darker brother.
They send me to eat in the kitchen
When company comes,
But I laugh,
And eat well,
And grow strong.

Tomorrow,
I'll sit at the table
When company comes.
Nobody'll dare
Say to me,
"Eat in the kitchen,"
Then.

Besides,
They'll see how beautiful I am
And be ashamed —
I, too, am America.
—Langston Hughes, 1926