

Name:

Date:

Class:

***A Raisin in the Sun* -- Written Exam Review**

Directions: Read through the page below for information on the format of and ways to prepare for your written exam on *A Raisin in the Sun*.

FORMAT FOR THE EXAM

- There will be three sections to this exam, worth a total of 50 points.
 - The **first** is a **poem analysis**, in which you will be asked to explain one connection between an event from the text and one line from the poem that opens the play ("Harlem" by Langston Hughes).
 - The **second** section is **one short answer question about redlining or white flight**.
 - The **third** is a **quote analysis** section, the preparation for which you will find below. You will be expected to analyze three out of five possible quotes.
- You will be allowed to use your book, but no other notes.
- You will be given one class period to complete the written exam. (Students with incomplete tests will need to attend tutorial the same day to finish up.)

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The actual study guide begins on the next page.

Written Exam Part I: Poem Analysis

On the exam, you will need to make a connection between a specific quote from *A Raisin in the Sun* and one of the lines from the poem that opens the play ("Harlem," by Langston Hughes).

- 1) Read the poem below.

~~What happens to a dream deferred?~~

Does it dry up

like a raisin in the sun?

Or fester like a sore--

And then run?

Does it stink like rotten meat?

Or crust and sugar over--

like a syrupy sweet?

Maybe it just sags

like a heavy load.

Or does it explode?

- 2) Select **a specific event or quote (with a page number)** from *A Raisin in the Sun* that connects to one of the lines from the poem. **You cannot use the first line**, which is why it is crossed out. **You also may not use a quote from the quote analysis section of this test.** Those quotes are provided in the third section of this study guide.

→ Try to connect the line(s) you chose to the themes, events and/or emotions of the characters in the play.

- 3) Because you can use your text on the exam, I suggest you jot down some notes **in your book** that would help you answer this question on the exam. I would suggest you do this on the page with the poem.

Remember: You may NOT choose a quote from the Quote Analysis section of the test! If it is in the quote analysis section, you should not plan to use it on the test.

Harlem

Langston Hughes

	Who is the character that matches the line of the poem?	What is one event in the life of the character that matches with that connection to the line of the poem?	How does that character and/or event match the line from the poem?	What is a line from the play that shows the match between the poem and the event?
Does it dry up like a raisin in the sun?				
Or fester like a sore and then run?				
Does it stink like rotten meat?				
Or crust and sugar over like a syrupy sweet?				
Maybe it just sags like a heavy load?				
Or does it explode?				

Written Exam Part II: Short Answer Question

You will need to give a thorough, clear response to this question on the exam. You must use evidence from *Raisin* to support your answer to receive full credit.

QUESTION

In what way(s) does *A Raisin in the Sun* connect to **ONE** of the following topics? Use specific evidence from the text and/or one of the documents we read and discussed in class to support your answer.

- Redlining
- White flight

Just as you did for Part I, you are **strongly encouraged to jot down notes in your text that will help you answer this question** on the exam. **You will be asked to provide evidence in your answer on the exam!!!! You may find some evidence on articles that we have read in class (articles are in the binder).**

Define Redlining: _____

Define White Flight: _____

Where do you see redlining or white flight in the story?	
What is one piece of evidence you can use to explain it?	
What is a second piece of evidence you can use to explain it?	

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Written Exam Part III: Quote Analysis

The quotes that show up on the exam will be pulled from this bank of quotes. You will be given five of them and will need to analyze three of them. **You should jot down a note or two in your text for each quote that will help you explain its significance.**

You will be asked to do the following:

- Identify ***the speaker*** (who said each quote)
- Describe ***the context***: This means to explain what was happening in the story when that quote is said. What are they talking about? What's going on at this point in the scene?
- Explain ***the significance*** of the quote. The significance of the quote can fit multiple categories. A quote can be significant for **one or more** of the following reasons:
 - It relates to one (or more) of the **major themes** in the play, such as "What happens to a dream deferred?" (i.e. the poem);
 - It illustrates the **personality of a character** or the **relationship** between two characters;
 - It **foreshadows a future event**, or connects to a past event;
 - It is a **turning point or climax** in the story.
 - It connects to **one of our signposts** (contrast and contradiction, Aha! Moment, Words of the Wiser, etc.)

Here are the quotes that may appear on the test. You will be given five and you will be asked to analyze three of them.

Quote 1:

"Man say to his woman: I got me a dream. His woman say: Eat your eggs....Man say: I got to take hold of this world, baby! And a woman will say: Eat your eggs and go to work....Man say: I got to change my life, I'm choking to death, baby! And his woman say....Your eggs is getting cold!" (33-34)

Quote 2:

"Hadn't been married but two weeks and wasn't planning on living here more than a year... We was going to set away, little by little, don't you know, and buy a place out in Morgan Park. We had even picked out the house... Looks right dumpy today. But Lord, child, you should know all the dreams I had 'bout buying that house and fixing it up and making me a little garden in the back—(*She waits and stops smiling*) And didn't none of it happen" (44).

Quote 3:

"We don't want to make no trouble for nobody or fight no causes, and we will try to be good neighbors. And that's *all* we got to say about that. (*He looks the man absolutely in the eyes*) We don't want your money" (148).

Quote 4:

"You know what we did last night? Me and Walter Lee?....*(Smiling to herself)* We went to the movies" (111).

Quote 5:

"No—I wanted to cure. It used to be so important to me" (133).

Quote 6:

"Lena---I'll work....I'll work twenty hours a day in all the kitchens in Chicago....I'll strap my baby on my back if I have to and scrub all the floors in America and wash all the sheets in America if I have to---but we got to MOVE! We got to get OUT OF HERE!!" (140)

Quote 7:

"You....you are a disgrace to your father's memory! Somebody get me my hat!" (75).

Quote 8:

"There is *always* something left to love. And if you ain't learned that, you ain't learned nothing" (145).

Quote 9:

"It is a matter of the people of Clybourne Park believing, rightly or wrongly, as I say, that for the happiness of all concerned that our Negro families are happier when they live in their *own* communities" (118).

Quote 10:

"Just tell me, what it is you want to be---and you'll *be* it....Whatever you want to be---yessir! *(He holds his arms open for TRAVIS)* You just name it, son....*(TRAVIS leaps into them)* and I hand you the world! *(WALTER'S voice has risen in pitch and hysterical promise and on the last line he lifts TRAVIS high)*" (109)

See chart below that you could fill out to help you prepare for the quotes that might be on the test:

Quote	Speaker	Context	Significance
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