

Questions about “Theme for English B”

- 1) Is the instructor’s assignment a good one? Why or why not?
- 2) What assumptions about writing does the instructor make?
- 3) Does the speaker of the poem agree with the instructor’s assumptions?
- 4) What’s the significance of the word, “colored,” in the poem?
- 5) Who is Bessie?
- 6) What significant things about himself does the speaker reveal?
- 7) What’s his attitude toward his instructor?
- 8) Langston Hughes was well past college age when he wrote this poem. The speaker is not the poet. What might have been Hughes reasons for giving someone else a voice?