

# Sample Activity

from the Pre-AP workshop

# Pre-AP®: Strategies in Social Studies – Writing Tactics Using SOAPSTone

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# Pre-AP: Strategies in Social Studies – Writing Tactics Using SOAPSTone Sample Activity

I, Too

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 be 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.

From *The Collected Poems of Langston Hughes*, edited by Arnold Rampersad and David Roessel (New York: Vintage Classics, 1995).

#### Who is the Speaker?

(Remember that it is not enough simply to name the speaker. What can you say about the speaker based on references to the text?)

#### What is the Occasion?

(Be certain to discuss and record both the **larger occasion** -- that is, those issues or ideas that must have made the speaker think about this incident -- and the **immediate occasion**.

#### Who is the Audience?

(At whom is this text directed? It's not enough to say "anyone who reads it." You will want to identify a certain audience by describing some of its characteristics.)

#### What is the Purpose?

(The purpose could be purely a personal one, i.e., to assuage guilt or to encourage action. However, it could also be directed at the audience. You will have to decide what the message is and how the author wants this audience to respond.)

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### What is the Subject?

(You should be able to state the subject in a few words or a very short phrase.)

### What is the Tone?

(Try to choose a description of the tone that fits the piece as a whole. Include specific words or phrases from the text and explain how they support your statement.)

How does the subject affect the tone?