

Harlem

By Langston Hughes

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?



1. Please write a sentence with each of the following words (look them up if you don't know them):

defer or deferred:

fester:

2. What is a metaphor? What is the relationship between metaphors, concrete images, and abstract concepts?

3. Give one example of a metaphor:

In Langston Hughes' poem, "Harlem," there are six concrete images.

On the back of this page, or on larger paper if you prefer:

- Represent each visually using color and detail.
- Create a word web around each image—what feelings, ideas, images, actions are associated with this image?