

Explain harlem (aka a
dream deferred by
langston hughes.)
what is the main idea
(...

[Literature](#)



Your Explain " Harlem" (aka " A Dream Deferred" by Langston Hughes.)

What is the main idea (theme) of the poem? Identify and discuss each of the five similes

The poem " A Dream deferred" by Langston Hughes revolves around the main concept that a ' dream' is not just something experienced during a sleep but an ambition in life. It points out the fact that if a dream or an aspiration is delayed or neglected it can have harmful and depressing affects. Basically the poem centers on the dream of African-American specifically, as the writer has originally named it " Harlem", which is the capital of the African American in the United States. " Like Brown's Southern Road, Montage of a dream deferred captures a fighting spirit produced in part effects of a war" (Tony Bolden). It is an expressive poem whose rhymes are irregular and it sums up the white repression of blacks in America. A simile is used in the first verse of every question. " Like a raisin in the sun", " like a rotten meat", " like a syrupy sweet", " like a sore" and " like a heavy load" are the five similes used in the poem. The writer uses a simile to compare the dream which is deferred with a raisin. According to the writer if a raisin is left in the sun to dry, it becomes hard and shrivels; it loses its moisture and nutrition, similarly if a dream is delayed to achieve it will not turn out as the person originally wished-for. Then if it is not dried up as a raisin it may " fester like a sore" it means that if a dream is postponed it irritates and festers like a sore. , dissatisfaction and agitation of not fulfilling it may drive towards hitting back at those who are the cause of delaying it. The third possibility is that it may turnout to be like a rotten meat, if a meat is not used within a certain period of time it may turn bad and gives a

<https://assignbuster.com/explain-harlem-aka-a-dream-deferred-by-langston-hughes-what-is-the-main-idea-themeof-the-poem-identify-and-discuss-each-of-the-five-similes/>

horrible smell likewise if a dream is not satisfied in a certain time period it decompose. Then if a syrupy sweet is unused for a long time forms crusts and as a result

It cannot be used same goes with a dream if a dream is not worked upon, negative thoughts may appear with the crust of anger and despair. Last but not the least a person carrying a heavy load turns out to be gauche and clumsy in the same way a dream not fulfilled becomes heavy to tolerate and turns the person towards depression.

References

Tony Bolden- " Afro-blue: improvisations in African American poetry and culture" pg-97-(2004)