1920 – 1935

Harlem Renaissance Quiz

Name _____ Date _____

Fill in the circle beside the best answer.

1. What event created the population growth that made the Harlem Renaissance possible?

- (A) The Harlem Riot of 1935, which drew national attention to the whole neighborhood
- (B) The Great Migration, which brought many Black Americans north from the South
- (C) The Great Depression, which pushed jobless workers into New York City
- (D) The Dust Bowl, which drove farm families from the Plains to New York City

2. What is the Harlem Renaissance best known for?

- (A) A flowering of Black American art, literature, and music in the 1920s and 1930s
- (B) A boom in banking and trade that made Harlem the richest neighborhood in New York
- (C) A political campaign that ended segregation across New York State in 1925
- (D) A religious revival that spread new Black churches across the North

3. Which musician helped define the Jazz Age and became one of the Harlem Renaissance's most famous figures?

- (A) Duke Ellington
- (B) Jean Toomer
- (C) Alain Locke
- (D) Langston Hughes

4. What was Alain Locke's The New Negro?

- (A) A book of poems celebrating the sound of blues and jazz music
- (B) A manifesto urging Black Americans to leave and settle in Africa
- (C) A novel about a Black woman's life and marriages in rural Florida
- (D) An anthology of Black art and writing that declared a new era of pride

5. What distinguished Langston Hughes's poetry?

- (A) He used strict European forms and avoided any hint of blues or jazz
- (B) He wrote mostly about ancient Greece and Rome and avoided modern life
- (C) He celebrated Black life using jazz rhythms, blues, and everyday speech
- (D) He wrote only about the rural South and ignored life in the northern cities

6. What ended the Harlem Renaissance?

- (A) The Prohibition laws, which shut down every jazz club in New York City
- (B) The Great Migration, which moved most Black artists back to the South
- (C) The First World War, which sent most Harlem artists to fight in Europe
- (D) The Great Depression, which dried up the money and support behind it

7. Why did the Harlem Renaissance matter beyond its artistic achievements?

- (A) It ended segregation in Southern schools and theaters before 1930
- (B) It persuaded Congress to pass several major civil rights laws during the 1920s
- (C) It showed Black creativity, challenging ideas used to defend segregation
- (D) It kept Harlem prosperous and shielded it from the Great Depression

8. Who was Zora Neale Hurston?

- (A) A poet and playwright who published The Weary Blues collection in 1926
- (B) A Black novelist and anthropologist who celebrated Southern Black folk culture
- (C) A philosopher and editor who put together The New Negro anthology
- (D) A jazz singer and bandleader who starred at the Cotton Club in Harlem

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Harlem Renaissance Quiz: Answer Key

1. **B** The Great Migration, which brought many Black Americans north from the South

2. **A** A flowering of Black American art, literature, and music in the 1920s and 1930s

3. **A** Duke Ellington

4. **D** An anthology of Black art and writing that declared a new era of pride

5. **C** He celebrated Black life using jazz rhythms, blues, and everyday speech

6. **D** The Great Depression, which dried up the money and support behind it

7. **C** It showed Black creativity, challenging ideas used to defend segregation

8. **B** A Black novelist and anthropologist who celebrated Southern Black folk culture