



Comprehension Strategies

7 Clarifying Teacher Modeling: *I wonder why Langston is eager to go to Columbia to study engineering—we already know that his real interest is writing. Does engineering have anything to do with writing? Maybe this will be clear as we read further.*

8 Clarifying Teacher Modeling: *Mr. Hughes says that Langston will have to study a lot of science and math, so engineering must involve these two subjects.*

9 Summarizing Teacher Modeling: *This is the end of the scene, so it is a good place to summarize. Mr. Hughes gets angry when he sees that Langston was writing. He wants his son to study a subject that he thinks will bring Langston success. Langston agrees to go to college, and his father is pleased. Mr. Hughes tells Langston that he will study engineering and that he will not have any time to write poetry.*

Comprehension Check

What decision do Mr. Hughes and Langston make about Langston's future? *They decide that Langston will go to Columbia University in New York to study engineering.*

Differentiating Instruction

English Learner

IF . . . students have difficulty with the contractions on page 94 and in the rest of the play, **THEN . . .** review the meaning of contractions. Then reread each sentence that has a contraction, spelling out the contractions on the board.



Mr. Hughes:

Of course. (*Proudly*) I can afford to send you to the finest schools in the world. (*Thoughtfully*) I hear there are excellent schools in Switzerland.

Langston (*Stunned*):

Switzerland! (*Agitated*) I don't want to go to school halfway around the world.

Mr. Hughes:

All right, if you feel that strongly about it. Let's see. (*Thinks*) What are some schools with good engineering departments?

Langston (*Eagerly*):

What about Columbia?

Mr. Hughes:

Columbia University in New York City?

Langston:

Yes. My grades were good in high school. I think Columbia would accept me.

Mr. Hughes (*Pleased*):

7 That's more like it. Now, forget that silly writing business, and we'll see about getting you an application for Columbia. (*Señora Garcia enters.*)

Señora Garcia:

Excuse me. Dinner is ready, Señor.

Mr. Hughes:

We'll be right there. (*He turns, sees paper on floor.*)
What's this?



Teacher Tip

BACKGROUND Langston Hughes moved around a lot as a child but spent his high school years in Cleveland, Ohio, where he graduated from Central High School. He had his first pieces of poetry published in the highly regarded school magazine, *Central High Monthly*. He was a staff member on the magazine, and his work was often published in it.