



Comprehension Strategies

10 Adjusting Reading Speed Teacher Modeling: *This is the beginning of a new scene. When we read about the setting, we will slow down so we can fully understand when and where this scene happens.*

11 Clarifying Teacher Modeling: *I am not sure what Thad means when he says that a medical degree is a ticket to somewhere. Maybe we will find out during the rest of their conversation.*

12 Clarifying Teacher Modeling: *Now we understand what Thad means by a “ticket.” He means that he would make a lot of money being a doctor, enough to have the comfortable life he wants.*

Comprehension Check

Why does Langston think that his father is probably very angry with him? *He has been neglecting his engineering studies. Instead he has been spending most of his time in Harlem.*

Word Structure

Inflectional ending:

plural	-es	classes
past tense	-ed	decided

Differentiating Instruction

English Learner

IF . . . students are not familiar with the term *at rise* in the play, **THEN . . .** explain that it means “the moment when the stage curtain rises, or goes up,” which is when the play or a new scene begins.

Scene 2

10 TIME:
The next year.

SETTING:
Langston’s dormitory room at Columbia University. Bunk or twin beds and small bureau are upstage. Desk with papers, pencils, and books; two chairs; lamp, clock, and wastebasket are downstage. Closet door is in wall right. Exit is left. Large posters of Harlem street and café scenes are on wall upstage.

AT RISE:
Thad sits at desk, reading. Langston enters.

Langston:
Hi, Thad. I don’t suppose my father has shown up yet.

Thad:
No, he hasn’t, Lang, but if I were you, I’d get out of town before he arrives.

Langston *(With a forced laugh):*
You talk as if you’ve already met him. (Sighs) He’s probably very angry with me now.

Thad:
Can’t say I blame him. (Closes book) Lang, what gives with you? All you’ve been doing lately is skipping classes and spending all your time uptown in Harlem. You haven’t touched a book in weeks.