Day 1 Migration and the growth of Harlem

Name _____ Date _____ Section _____

Learning target Explain how migration helped create conditions for the Harlem Renaissance.

Do Now

What might make a family leave a familiar home? Give one reason to leave and one reason to choose a destination.

Vocabulary and word origins

Migration means moving from one place to another. Latin migrare means to move.

Renaissance means rebirth or renewed cultural activity. The word comes from French for rebirth.

Segregation means enforced separation of groups, often by race. Latin segregare means to separate.

Source reading

1. During the Great Migration, African Americans left the South for cities in the North and other regions. Families sought safer lives and better opportunities. Racial violence and restrictions on rights pushed people to leave. Jobs, education and family connections pulled people toward new homes. Migration was a choice made under difficult conditions, not a single journey taken by everyone at once.

2. Harlem is a neighborhood in Manhattan, one of New York City's five boroughs. It is not a separate city or state. As Black residents settled there, they brought stories, religious practices, musical traditions and hopes for the future. People met in homes, churches, businesses and community organizations. These networks helped neighbors share information and support new arrivals.

3. In the 1920s and 1930s, Harlem became an important center of African American cultural activity. Writers, musicians and artists created works that explored Black experiences. This movement became known as the Harlem Renaissance. Harlem was a gathering place, but the movement reached beyond its streets. Creative work also developed in other cities and traveled through books, magazines, performances and recordings.

4. A growing population did not automatically produce equal treatment. Migrants could still face discrimination in housing and employment. Yet gathering in a community created opportunities to collaborate. One writer could meet an editor. A performer could find an audience. Geography shaped these connections by bringing people and institutions close together.

Original instructional synthesis using Sources A and B. This is a secondary reading, not a migrant's firsthand account.

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Day 1 Migration and the growth of Harlem Geography connection

Location Region and Movement

5. Location asks where something is. Harlem's relative location is within Manhattan in New York City. Region asks how places are grouped by shared characteristics. The South and the North are broad regions with differences within each. A cultural region can also form through shared institutions and traditions. Harlem became a center of Black cultural life, but its residents did not all have the same ancestry or experience.

6. Movement includes people, goods and ideas. Moving north could separate families from familiar places and relatives while opening new possibilities. Migrants carried memories, stories and practices. Letters, visits and publications could maintain connections. These possibilities help us ask how movement reshapes belonging rather than treating a journey only as a change of address.

Geographic inquiry

Explain Harlem's location and identify one regional connection. Then describe one opportunity and one possible cost of migration.

Original instructional analysis. Identity context uses Sources I and J. Removal context uses Source K. Proposed effects on family ties are research questions, not claims about every family.