

Extensive Reading



Names, by Maya Angelou

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. What's the importance of your name?

2. Would you like to have been given another name? Why (not)?

3. How do you feel when people address you by the wrong name?

HOMEWORK: create your READING LOG by taking notes on the following:

- 1- Setting:
 - a) Time - (When does the action take place?)
 - b) Place - (Where does the action take place?)
- 2- Characters :
 - a) main characters
 - b) minor characters
 - c) other people's names referred to in the story
- 3- Plot - (events which form the story)
- 4- Theme(s)- (subject(s)/ main idea(s) contained in the story)
- 4- Narrator's point of view

WHILE-READING ACTIVITIES

A- Divide the short story "Names" into 4 parts and give them headings:

1st Part – From line ____ up to line _____

2nd Part– From line ____ up to line _____

3rd Part – From line ____ up to line _____

4th Part – From line ____ up to line _____

B- Characters: In note form write down information about the characters below.

MRS VIOLA CULLINAN

- Marital status/ Family-- _____
- Social background-- _____
- Physical appearance-- _____
- Special behaviour features-- _____

MARGARET

- Occupation-- _____
- Her age at the time of the story-- _____
- Social background-- _____
- Family-- _____
- Personality traits-- _____
- Her new name-- _____

MISS GLORY

- Real name-- _____
- Occupation-- _____
- Social background-- _____
- Personality traits-- _____

C- Fill in the table with information from the 1st part of the story and complete the sentence below it:

<i>EDUCATION</i>	
WHITE GIRLS	BLACK GIRLS

The education that white and black girls received also had different targets in their future life: while white girls were supposed to _____, black girls were supposed to _____

D- Reread the 2nd part of the story and...

1. relate the description of Mrs Cullinan's house to her own character: _____

2. refer to Margaret's feelings towards Mrs Cullinan in this part of the story and mention 2 reasons why she felt like that: _____

3. refer to a passage in which you can see racial segregation: _____

4. refer to a common habit of rich white ladies: _____

E- Now go through the 3rd part and...

1. complete this sentence: We can see that Mrs Cullinan had the habit of _____
_____: originally Mary was _____
_____ and Glory was _____.
2. refer to some common points between Margaret and Maya Angelou, the author, that prove the autobiographical character of the story: _____

3. refer to the change in Margaret's feelings towards Mrs Cullinan and to the cause of this change: _____

4. compare Miss Glory's reaction to Margaret's, as far as renaming is concerned : _____

5. pick up examples of Black English in Miss Glory's words: _____

F- Finally, go through the 4th part and...

1. mention some changes in Margaret's working habits/attitudes and their meaning: _____

2. refer to the climax of the story and say who indirectly contributed to it: _____

3. say if Margaret's revenge was a good one by referring to Mrs Cullinan's reaction:

4. complete this sentence: Mrs Cullinan must have understood why Margaret had that behaviour, because at the end of the story she _____

POST-READING ACTIVITIES

1- In your opinion, what did Maya Angelou want to show in this story?

2- What impact did this story have on you as a reader, bearing in mind its social background, title and plot?



Enjoy your story!