

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. "We Wear the Mask"

Symbol	What It Represents	What It Suggests
Line 1: mask		
Line 4: hearts		
Line 10: clay		

2. "Sympathy"

Symbol	What It Represents	What It Suggests
Line 1: caged bird		
Line 4: cruel bars		
Line 10: heart's deep core		

1. Think about the use of symbolism in "We Wear the Mask" and "Sympathy." Look at the list of symbols from the poems. In the boxes, write notes describing what each symbol represents and what the speaker is suggesting by using that particular symbol. (15 points each)

Answer one of the following questions based on your understanding of "We Wear the Mask" and "Sympathy." Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper. (40 points)

2. Some of Dunbar's most popular and influential poems attempt to teach white America about the struggle that African Americans face. What do you think Dunbar is trying to explain to white America about the plight of African Americans in the poems "Sympathy" and "We Wear the Mask"? Use examples from the poems to support your answers.