

Read the fifth paragraph in Chapter 1 of W. E. B. DuBois's "Of Our Spiritual Strivings", from "This, then, is the end of his striving" to "about to make them ashamed of themselves."

1. How does Du Bois explain "the end of [African Americans'] striving"? What key words or phrases develop this explanation?
2. What is the effect of Du Bois's use of parallel structure in this sentence?
3. How do Du Bois's references to "Ethiopia the Shadowy" and "Egypt the Sphinx" advance his point of view?
4. How does the imagery Du Bois uses in the sentence beginning "Through history, the powers of single black men" further develop his point of view?
5. What is the impact of the words and phrases Du Bois uses to describe African Americans' experience after Emancipation?
6. How has African Americans' experience after Emancipation been perceived?
7. How does Du Bois further develop his point of view in the sentence beginning "And yet it is not weakness"?
8. How does the idea of "double aims" (par. 5) relate to an idea previously discussed in the text?
9. How does Du Bois support his idea that the struggle of "the black artisan" is "double-aimed"?

10. What relationship does Du Bois establish between the artisan's "double-aimed struggle" and being "a poor craftsman"?
11. How does Du Bois further refine a central idea of the text in his description of the artisan's struggle?
12. Why do the African-American minister and doctor feel "ashamed"?
13. What "double aims" do the minister and doctor seek to reconcile?
14. What does Du Bois mean by the phrase "was Greek to his own flesh and blood"?
15. With what is the "would-be black savant" "confronted"? Explain "the paradox" Du Bois describes.
16. Based upon your understanding of "the paradox" Du Bois describes, what could the word *paradox* mean?
17. How does the paradox Du Bois describes further develop the idea of "double aims"?
18. What made "the soul of the black artist" doubtful and confused?
19. How is the idea of "double aims" demonstrated in the artist's soul?
20. Why are "double aims" a "waste"?