

Vocabulary Choice

This activity accompanies “Parted,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5302.

Activity Title: Vocabulary Choice

Description: The students will work with a partner to explain how the author’s word choice enhances the meaning and tone of the poem.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Literary Analysis

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will explain how the author’s word choice enhances the meaning and tone of the poem.

Materials:

- “Parted” poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencil

Procedures:

Read the poem with the students, or have them read it on their own. Discuss with the students the main idea of the poem, and explain to the students how to identify the tone of a poem. Then, have the students work with a partner to write an explanation for how the author’s word choice enhances the meaning and tone of the poem. When the students have finished writing, have them share what they wrote in a whole class discussion.

