

## Historical Fiction

This activity accompanies chapter 2 from *The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man* by James Weldon Johnson, record number 1752.

**Activity Title:** Historical Fiction

**Description:** The students will explain how the ideas from this chapter, and the book, reflect the historical period in which it was written.

**Subject:** Reading/Language Arts

**Skill:** Literary Analysis

**Behavioral Objective:**

- The student will explain how ideas, values, and themes of a literary work often reflect the historical period in which it was written.

**Materials:**

- *The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man* Chapter 2, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencils
- Internet access or history books

**Procedures:**

Read the chapter with the class, or have the students read it on their own. Discuss with the students the time period in which the book was written. Have the students discuss the events that were taking place during that time period. Next, have the students work with a partner to write an explanation about how the ideas, values, and themes of the chapter reflect the historical period in which the book was written. When the students have finished working, have a whole class discussion reviewing their answers.

