

## Use of Dialect

This activity accompanies “A Coquette Conquered,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5040.

**Activity Title:** Use of Dialect

**Description:** The students will analyze the use of dialect in the poem.

**Subject:** Reading/Language Arts

**Skill:** Literary Analysis

**Behavioral Objective:**

- The student will explain how the use of dialect in the poem reflects the historical period in which it was written.

**Materials:**

- “A Coquette Conquered” poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencils

**Procedures:**

Read the poem with the students, or have them read it on their own. Discuss with the students the dialect found in the poem, and discuss the time period in which the poem was written. Next, have the students break into small groups to discuss how the dialect in the poem reflects the historical time period in which this poem was written. Then, have the students come back together as a class, and debrief their discussions.

