

Main Idea

This activity accompanies “A Grievance,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5224.

Activity Title: Main Idea

Description: The students will work with a partner to explain the main idea of the poem.

Subject: Reading and Language/Arts

Skill: Main Idea

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will explain the main idea of the poem.

Materials:

- “A Grievance” 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 listen to it on the Lit2Go website (website link above). Discuss with the students the dialect of the poem. Then, have the students work with a partner to discuss, and write, an explanation for the main idea of the poem. When the students are finished, have a class discussion reviewing their answers.

