

What the Title Adds

This activity accompanies “Jilted,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5159.

Activity Title: What the Title Adds

Description: The students will explain how the title of the poem enhances the poem’s meaning.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Literary Analysis

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will explain how the title of the poem enhances the poem’s meaning.

Materials:

- “Jilted” 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 and dialect of the poem. Then, have the students work individually to write an explanation for how the title helps to enhance the poem’s meaning. Allow the students to use dictionaries, if necessary. When the students are finished, have them share what they wrote in small groups.

