

The Title

This activity accompanies “Weltschmerz,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5275.

Activity Title: The Title

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

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Literary Analysis

Behavioral Objective:

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

Materials:

- “Weltschmerz” 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 theme of the poem. Then, have the students work in small groups to discuss how the title of the poem enhances its meaning. Allow the students to use a dictionary, or online dictionary to look up the meaning of the title, if necessary. When the students are finished discussing, review as a class what each group discussed.

