

Directions: Answer all questions in **complete sentences** using details and examples from the novel.
Print or write legibly in **pen**.

A Raisin in the Sun by Lorraine Hansberry

Guided Reading Questions

Name _____

Score _____/100_

Due _____

Act I Scene 1

1. What is the setting of the play?
2. Why did Walter ask Ruth what was wrong with her?
3. Why was Ruth upset when Walter gave Travis the money?
4. Who are Willy and Bobo?
5. Walter said, "Damn my eggs...damn all the eggs that ever was!" Why?
6. What does the quotation below from Act I reveal about Walter's character?

WALTER: *"This morning, I was lookin' in the mirror and thinking about it...I'm thirty-five years old; I been married eleven years and I got a boy who sleeps in the living room – and all I got to give him is stories about how rich people live."*

7. Who is Beneatha?
8. Why was Mama getting a check for \$10,000?
9. What does Mama want to do with the money?

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10. What does Walter want to do with the money?
11. Why did Beneatha say she wouldn't marry George?
12. What was Beneatha's attitude towards God?
13. What happened to Ruth at the end of Act I scene 1?
14. What does Mama's plant represent?

Act I Scene 2

15. Who is Joseph Asagai?
16. What did Ruth find out at the doctor's office?
17. Why is Asagai's present to Beneatha appropriate?
18. Why is Asagai's nickname appropriate?
19. What does Mama say is "dangerous"?
20. Where did Ruth actually go instead of the doctor's office?
21. Why did Mama call Walter a disgrace to his father's memory?

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Act II Scene 1

22. What was Beneatha's family doing when George came in the apartment?
23. How is George different from Walter?
24. According to Beneatha, who are "assimilationist Negroes"?
25. What did Mama do with her money?
26. What was Walter's reaction to Mama's purchase?
27. What was Ruth's reaction to Mama's purchase?

Act II Scene 2

28. How did Ruth find out Walter hadn't been going to work?
29. Why was Walter not going to work?
30. Where was Walter going instead of work?
31. What did Mama do for Walter?
32. How did his attitude change once he got the money?

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Act II Scene 3

33. Who was Karl Lindner?

34. Why did he visit the Younger's house?

35. What was Walter's reaction to Lindner?

36. What presents did Mama get?

37. What news did Bobo bring to Walter?

38. How does Walter react to this news?

39. How does Mama react to the news?

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Act III

40. Why didn't Beneatha want to be a doctor anymore?

41. How did Asagai define "idealists" and "realists"?

42. What does Asagai ask Beneatha to do?

43. What fault does Mama find with herself?

44. What solution does Walter have?

45. In the quotation below, what does Mama suggest that Beneatha has failed to learn?

BENEATHA: *Be on my side for once! You saw what he did, mama! You saw him – down on his knees. Wasn't it you who taught me to despise any man who would do that. Do what he is going to do?*

MAMA: *Yes – I taught you that. Me and your daddy. But I thought I taught you something else too...I thought I taught you to love him.*

BENEATHA: *Love him? There is nothing left to love.*

MAMA: *There is always something left to love. And if you ain't learned that, you ain't learned nothing.*

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46. Why didn't Walter take the money Lindner offered?

47. What does Mama mean when she says that Walter finally "come into his manhood"?

48. Did the Youngers stay or move?

Answer the following two questions in relation to the quotation below.

MAMA: *Once upon a time freedom used to be life – now it's money. I guess the world really do change.*

49. How are Beneatha and Walter different from the mother in their outlook of life at the beginning of the play?

50. What values does Mama manage instill in them by the end of the play?

_____/10

Record your final score on the front of this packet.