

Culture Takes Center

Music, books, and sports shaped life in the 1930s.

SS5H3.c "Discuss important cultural elements of the 1930s; include Duke Ellington, Margaret Mitchell, and Jesse Owens."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one detail in each paragraph that tells how the named person shaped culture in the 1930s. Number the underlined details 1, 2, and 3 from top to bottom.

Three Cultural Voices

- ① During the 1930s, music gave many Americans a break from the worries of the Great Depression. Bandleader Duke Ellington wrote and performed jazz with his orchestra at places such as Harlem's Cotton Club. His songs used rich sounds and strong rhythms. Radio broadcasts and records helped his music reach wide audiences, making jazz an important part of the decade's culture.
- ② Books also shaped popular culture. In 1936, Atlanta writer Margaret Mitchell published *Gone with the Wind*, a novel set in the South during and after the Civil War. The story became a best seller and brought her national attention. Its success showed that many people in the 1930s were interested in stories about the past and the changing South.
- ③ Sports created another memorable cultural moment. At the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, Germany, American track athlete Jesse Owens won four gold medals. He won the 100-meter race, 200-meter race, long jump, and 4-by-100-meter relay. Owens's victories challenged Nazi ideas that some races were better than others. Newspapers and radio reports shared his achievements with people far beyond the stadium.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did Duke Ellington’s music reach wide audiences?

2 What did the success of *Gone with the Wind* show about many people in the 1930s?

3 How did Jesse Owens’s Olympic victories challenge Nazi ideas?

4 What three parts of culture are represented by Duke Ellington, Margaret Mitchell, and Jesse Owens?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a three-sentence museum label for an exhibit called “Culture of the 1930s.” Explain how music, books, and sports mattered, and include Duke Ellington, Margaret Mitchell, and Jesse Owens with one accurate fact about each.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline one detail in each paragraph that tells how the named person shaped culture in the 1930s. Number the underlined details 1, 2, and 3 from top to bottom. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Duke Ellington's music reach wide audiences?	Radio broadcasts and records helped his music reach wide audiences.
2	What did the success of <i>Gone with the Wind</i> show about many people in the 1930s?	Many people were interested in stories about the past and the changing South.
3	How did Jesse Owens's Olympic victories challenge Nazi ideas?	His victories challenged the Nazi idea that some races were better than others.
4	What three parts of culture are represented by Duke Ellington, Margaret Mitchell, and Jesse Owens?	Ellington represents music, Mitchell represents books or literature, and Owens represents sports.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In the 1930s, Duke Ellington's jazz traveled to wide audiences through radio broadcasts and records. Margaret Mitchell's best-selling novel, *Gone with the Wind*, showed interest in the South's past and changes. Jesse Owens won four gold medals in Berlin, and his victories challenged Nazi racial ideas.

Accept equivalent passage-based wording for the short answers. For the museum label, accept three sentences that name all three people, address music, books, and sports, and include an accurate fact about each person.