

A Raisin in the Sun Act 1 Activity Movement

To fully understand and appreciate dramas, people need to see them performed. One aspect of a performance is movement – movements should help develop the characters, progress the plot, and indicate the mood.

Directions: In a small group, you will get a specific set of lines, read your lines, write a brief summary, and answer your study guide questions. Your group will have about 20 minutes to read your section, prepare for your class reading, and figure out your transition within scenes.

Reading Steps:

1. Cast the parts – give each group member a character
2. Read your section – read it out loud, as a group, but keep your voices down
3. Answer your study guide questions in your groups
4. Create a character list with personality traits and reference specific lines to support your claims – your group will use this list to figure out when and how their characters should move on stage
5. Script out character placement and movements on stage – character placement and movement needs to help the class understand the plot and your character’s personality
6. Write a brief, bullet pointed explanation for your characters’ movement and body placement

Reading Groups:

Group 1: Act 1 Scene 1 Pages 6-17 (end right before “She rises to get the ironing board”)

Ruth
Walter
Travis
Beneatha

Group 2: Act 1 Scene 1 Pages 17-26 (finish Mama’s lines that go on to page 27)

Walter
Ruth
Mama
Beneatha

Group 3: Act 1 Scene 1 Pages 27-35 (end of scene)

Ruth
Mama
Beneatha

Group 4: Act 1 Scene 2 Pages 36-45 (finish Mama’s lines that go on to page 46)

Travis
Mama
Beneatha
Walter
Asagai

Group 5: Act 1 Scene 2 Pages 46-56 (end of scene)

Asagai
Beneatha
Mama
Travis
Ruth
Walter