

“We Wear the Mask” and Interview Analysis

Directions: Read through Paul Laurence Dunbar’s poem “We Wear the Mask” and the notes you took while you watched the interview clip of the Japanese internment camp survivor Reiko Nagumo. Then, determine what themes the two pieces have to say.

Standards being assessed:

WA 2.2: The student will write responses to literature.

RS3.5b: Contrast the major periods, themes, styles and trends and describe how works by members of different cultures relate to one another in each period.

<i>“We Wear the Mask”</i>	<i>Interview clip</i>
Theme	Theme

Answer the following questions on the back of this handout. Answers should be 5-6 sentences long.

1. What similarities do you find between the poem and the interview?
2. Notice that the poem was written over 100 years ago, and the US government relocation program happened over 50 years ago; do you think America has changed since these times?

