**As I Grew Older**/Langston Hughes

Review questions

**Basic Understanding Questions**

1) What do the words "it" and "then" refer to?

2) What is the race of the speaker? How do you know?

3) What prevented the speaker from fulfilling his dream?

4) What does the speaker compare his dream to?

5) List two elements of nature mentioned in the poem.

6) How does the speaker use to break down the wall?

**Critical Thinking Questions**

1) How is racial discrimination reflected in the poem?

2) Choose 2 symbols in the poem and explain their significance.

3) Explain how the speaker's dream at the end of the poem differs from the dream expressed at the beginning.

4) What do you think happens at the end of the poem? Explain your answer.

**Post-reading questions**

1. In his poem "Dreams" Hughes writes:

"When dreams go,

Life is a barren field

Frozen with snow"

Make a connection between the above quote and the poem.

2)" There are those who look at the world the way it is and ask: why?"

"I look at the world the way it could be and ask: why not?"(Robert Kennedy)

How is this philosophy of life reflected in the poem?