

African American Actors Study Sheet

1. Denzel Washington Two-time Academy Award winner known for his powerful performances in "Training Day" and "Malcolm X."
2. Viola Davis First Black actor to win the Triple Crown of Acting (an Oscar, Emmy, and Tony).
3. Sidney Poitier First Black actor to win an Academy Award for Best Actor for "Lilies of the Field."
4. Halle Berry First Black woman to win an Academy Award for Best Actress for "Monster's Ball."
5. Morgan Freeman Known for his distinctive voice and acclaimed roles in "The Shawshank Redemption" and "Driving Miss Daisy."
6. Chadwick Boseman Portrayed iconic Black figures such as Jackie Robinson, James Brown, and T'Challa in "Black Panther."
7. Whoopi Goldberg Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, and Tony Award winner known for her roles in "Ghost" and "The Color Purple."
8. Octavia Spencer Academy Award-winning actress recognized for her roles in "The Help" and "Hidden Figures."
9. Will Smith Versatile actor known for his roles in "The Pursuit of Happyness" and "Ali."
10. Angela Bassett Notable for her portrayal of strong Black women in films like "What's Love Got to Do with It" and "Black Panther."
11. Samuel L. Jackson Prolific actor with over 100 film credits, known for his roles in "Pulp Fiction" and "Django Unchained."
12. Regina King Won an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress for her role in "If Beale Street Could Talk."
13. Jamie Foxx Academy Award winner for his portrayal of Ray Charles in "Ray" and known for his roles in "Django Unchained" and "Collateral."
14. Cicely Tyson Emmy and Tony Award-winning actress known for her roles in "Sounder" and "The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman."
15. Forest Whitaker Won an Academy Award for his role as Idi Amin in "The Last King of Scotland."
16. Eddie Murphy Iconic comedian and actor known for his roles in "Coming to America" and "Beverly Hills Cop."
17. Taraji P. Henson Emmy-nominated actress recognized for her role as Cookie Lyon in "Empire" and "Hidden Figures."
18. Mahershala Ali Two-time Academy Award winner for his roles in "Moonlight" and "Green Book."
19. Lupita Nyong'o Academy Award-winning actress for her role in "12 Years a Slave" and known for her role in "Black Panther."
20. Kerry Washington Golden Globe-nominated actress known for her role as Olivia Pope in "Scandal."