

# African American Authors Study Sheet

1. Maya Angelou      Renowned poet and memoirist known for her groundbreaking work "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings."
2. Langston Hughes      Influential poet and leader of the Harlem Renaissance, famed for works such as "The Negro Speaks of Rivers."
3. Zora Neale Hurston      Author and anthropologist renowned for her novel "Their Eyes Were Watching God."
4. James Baldwin      Renowned novelist, playwright, and essayist known for his works like "Go Tell It on the Mountain" and "The Fire Next Time."
5. Alice Walker      Pulitzer Prize-winning author celebrated for her novel "The Color Purple," exploring themes of race and womanhood. .
6. Richard Wright      Acclaimed author known for his seminal works "Native Son" and "Black Boy," capturing the African American experience. .
7. Ralph Ellison      Influential novelist celebrated for his groundbreaking work "Invisible Man," examining issues of identity and race in America. .
8. Gwendolyn Brooks      First African American to win the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry, known for her poignant verses capturing urban African American life. .
9. Nikki Giovanni      Renowned poet known for her powerful and socially conscious verses, such as "Ego-Tripping" and "Nikki-Rosa."
10. Lorraine Hansberry      Groundbreaking playwright celebrated for her seminal work "A Raisin in the Sun," depicting African American life in Chicago. .
11. August Wilson      Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright famed for his "Pittsburgh Cycle," chronicling African American experiences in the 20th century. .
12. Terry McMillan      Bestselling author celebrated for her novels like "Waiting to Exhale" and "How Stella Got Her Groove Back."
13. Alex Haley      Author of the acclaimed novel "Roots: The Saga of an American Family," which traced African American lineage from slavery to freedom. .
14. Bell Hooks      Influential author, feminist theorist, and cultural critic known for her works like "Ain't I a Woman?" and "Feminism is for Everybody."
15. Nella Larsen      Renowned author of the Harlem Renaissance, known for her novels "Quicksand" and "Passing."
16. Jesmyn Ward      Two-time National Book Award-winning author celebrated for her novels "Salvage the Bones" and "Sing, Unburied, Sing."
17. Octavia Butler      Pioneering science fiction writer known for her innovative works like the "Patternist" series and "Kindred."
18. Jacqueline Woodson      Award-winning author known for her works exploring themes of identity, race, and family, including "Brown Girl Dreaming" and "Another Brooklyn."