



8th Grade English

Unit 1 Literature

“I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings” Worksheets

COMPREHENSION CHECK

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings

Maya Angelou

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following items after you finish your first read.

1. Who owns the Store?

2. What does Marguerite do at the Store?

3. Whose house does Marguerite visit?

4. What is Marguerite tasked with doing when she receives a book of poems?

5. To confirm your understanding, write a summary of the excerpt from
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings.

TEXT QUESTIONS

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings

DIRECTIONS: Respond to these questions. Use textual evidence to support your responses.

1. Interpret (a) What does Marguerite mean when she observes that Mrs. Flowers seemed to have a “private breeze” on hot days? (b) **Analyze** What does this description reveal about Marguerite’s view of Mrs. Flowers?

2. Draw Conclusions Why might Marguerite be particularly open to Mrs. Flowers’s influence?

3. Compare How does Mrs. Flowers compare to the other people in Stamps?

4.(a) Analyze What effect does the afternoon with Mrs. Flowers have on Marguerite? (b) **Infer** Why do you think that Mrs. Flowers takes an interest in her?

5. Essential Question: *What are some milestones on the path to growing up?* What have you learned about childhood by reading this selection?
