

## The Big Ideas

### School-to-Home Connection

A person's outlook on life is influenced by many factors. As a result, your outlook on life is likely to be somewhat different from that of the adults in your life. Your feelings about literature are also likely to be different. When you look back at events or ideas from the past, they may look different to you than to those who are older than you.

### ACTIVITY

**Directions** Think about the unit's three Big Ideas: the new poetics, modern fiction, and the Harlem Renaissance. Use the following questions as a guide to help you compare how you view these ideas with how an adult in your family views them.

1. Which one of the Big Ideas connects most closely with your life? Write a paragraph to explain why you chose this big idea and how it connects to your life. Then, explain why you *didn't* choose the other Big Ideas.

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2. Describe each of the three Big Ideas to a family member of another generation. Invite your family member to identify which idea connects most closely to his or her experience and to explain why. Have your family member explain why he or she *didn't* choose the other ideas. Summarize your family member's explanation.

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3. Compare and contrast your explanation of your connection to one of the Big Ideas to your family member's explanation. Then, compare and contrast your explanations of why you didn't choose the other Big Ideas. What impact do you think your age difference had on your outlooks? Discuss your ideas in a paragraph.

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