



English 10A – Unit 6

Lessons 1 & 2

Reading Workshop

Ms. Billett
Reading Success Coach
November 27, 2023



Unit 5 Test essay question to compare

“And Yet the Books”
by Czeslaw Milosz

Poem

Pages 227-228

“Rhinceros”
by Eugene Ionesco

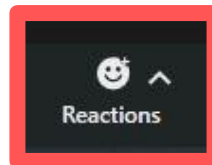
Short story

Pages 230-246



How did our *last workshop* help you on the Unit 5 test?

Friday, November 17



Unit 6 Test

essay question option:

A theme that runs through the poems in this unit is that a sense of **pride** is important to a sense of **self-worth**.

Take notes as you read.



The Unit 6 test is on your planner for Dec. 20.

Sunjata

as told by Djanka Tassej Condé
(epic poem)

English 10A LL Workshop with Ms. Billett



Lesson 1 (two days) + Lesson 2 (one day)

	29 WEDNESDAY	30 THURSDAY	1 FRIDAY
English 10 A - Writing Workshop Personal Narrative (2)	English 10 A - Sunjata Part 1 (2)	English 10 A - Sunjata Part 1 (2)	English 10 A - Sunjata Part 2 and Africa
English 10 Foundations A - Writing Workshop Personal Narrative (2)	English 10 Foundations A - "Sunjata," Part 1 (2)	English 10 Foundations A - "Sunjata," Part 1 (2)	English 10 Foundations A - "Sunjata," Part 2 and "Africa"
Honors English 10 A - Writing Workshop Personal Narrative (2)	Honors English 10 A - Writing Workshop Personal Narrative (2)	Honors English 10 A - "Sunjata," Part 1 (2)	Honors English 10 A - "Sunjata," Part 1 (2)



Resources for Lessons 1 & 2

01

PDF – the poem

Reading the World textbook pp. 270-279

03

Audio (background & poem)

A teacher introduces the poem and reads it. youtu.be/nC5X5v2-1E?si=WKQU5FuLOaaq6RtV

02


PDF - handout

Sunjata - Read and Think handout. Found in Lesson 2 slide 4 *and* as an attachment in Ms. Billett's Nov. 26 WebMail.

04

Poem audio

Mrs. Hollod's 2022 LiveLesson when she reads the entire poem: <https://inspire-connectionsacademy-org.zoom.us/rec>



01

Read the background about the epic poem on **pp. 270-271**.

- This poem is also a **narrative story** about the hero of the story.
- You read another epic poem in English 9A *The Odyssey*.
- This poem started through storytellers (orally).



01

The epic poem takes place in Mali.

- Sunjata ends up establishing the Mali Empire in the early 1200s.
- However, when our poem begins, he is born disabled (“crippled” / “lame”).

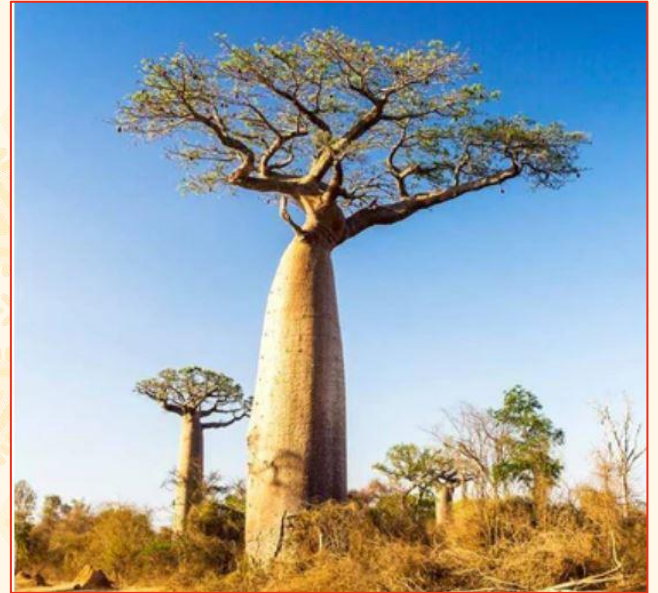


01

Baobab trees:

“Known as the ‘Tree of Life,’ the species is found throughout the drier regions of Africa and features a water-storing trunk that may reach a diameter of 30 feet and a height of 59 feet.”

Source:
<https://www.britannica.com/plant/baobab-tree-genus>

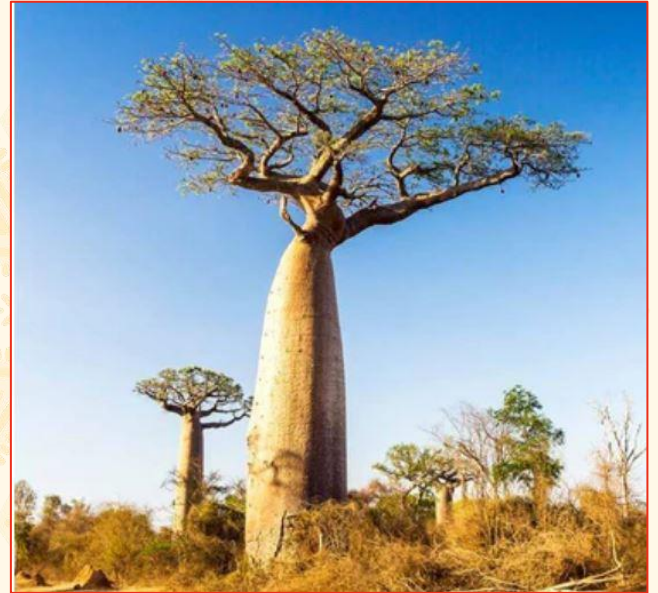


02

Loyalty

Look for examples of “loyalty” throughout the poem. This was an important cultural value to the storytellers and their audiences.

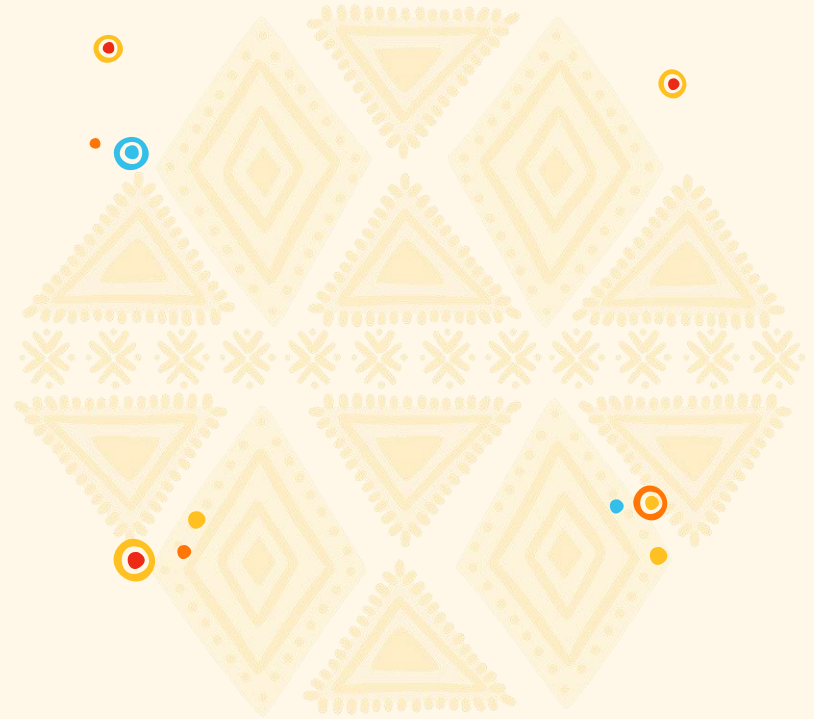
Source: Responding and Writing handout





Characters (to begin...)

- **Mande** – West Africa
- **Sunjata** – the hero
- **Sogolon** (AKA Ma Sogolon Wulen Condé) – the mother of Sunjata
- **Co-wives** – Sunjata's father had other wives
- **Maramajan Tarawelé** – older sister of Sogolon



Reading strategies



Make a movie in your head with all the senses

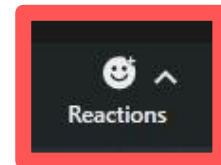


Make connections

- with your own life
- with what you know about the world
- with other stories you've read (or movies you've seen)



Ask questions as you read.



Sunjata

p. 271



That Ma'an Sunjata,
God made him into a person,
Made him into a human fetus
and he was born.

After this son was born,
When the Mande women were
told about it,



They gathered together again
under the Mande baobab tree.

They said, "It is one thing to give
birth to a son,
And another thing for him to
survive."



What did they do again?



Sunjata

p. 272 a



Through sorcery they stretched the tendons of his two feet.

They confined him to the ground.
(You heard it?)



His lameness forced him to remain on the ground.

One year!
Two years!
Three years!
Four years!
Five years!
Six years!
The seventh year!

The co-wives provoked Sogolon to anger.



Sunjata

p. 272 b



One day—

(Because we are walking on a straight path,
We cannot wander from one side to the other,



We have to take the main road,
So we will know how Manden was built,



You heard it?)

In the seventh year there came a day

When Maramajan Tarawelé went and picked some baobab leaves

From the same baobab tree that was already mentioned.



While on her way back, Ma Sogolon Wulen Condé said, She said, “Big sister Maramajan Tarawelé,

Won’t you give me a few of your baobab leaves?”



Sunjata

p. 272 c



The house in which Ma'an Sunjata was lodged, This was said under its eaves.

Maramajan Tarawelé said, "Ah!" She said, "Younger sister, You who are the owner of sons, If you ask us for baobab leaves, what are we supposed to do? Your lame son is sitting right there inside the house. You are alone in your search for baobab leaves. Why don't you tell your son to get up and walk?"



Ma'an Sogolon Wulen Condé said, "Ah, that is not what I meant. I thought I could depend on sisterhood. But I did not know you were upset because I had this child."

They didn't know Sunjata was listening to them.



Sunjata

p. 273



He said, "Mother, what are they saying?"

She said, "Ah, forget about that talk."



He said, "Ah, how can I ignore that?"





Take a moment – Predict:

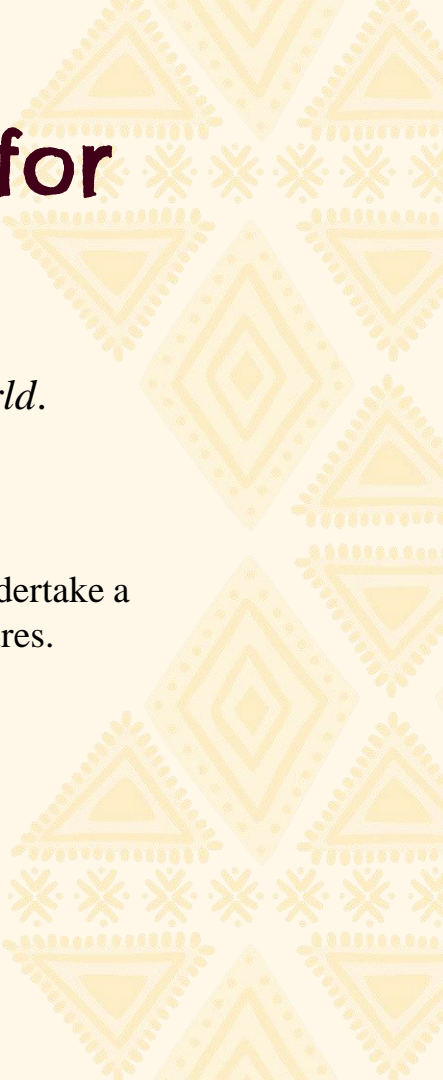
1. How does Sunjata feel about “causing” his mother to feel embarrassed (maybe even humiliated)?
2. How will Sunjata react? What will he *do*?

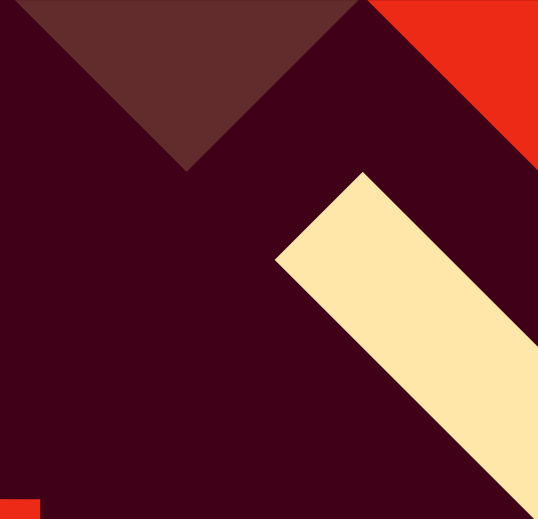
Remember, Sunjata is our epic hero!





Reminders: On your planner for Wednesday - Friday:

- Read "The Literature of Africa" on pp. 266–267 in *Reading the World*.
 - Read *Sunjata* on pp. 270–278 in *Reading the World*.
 - Remember: Epics feature a **courageous and noble hero** who must undertake a **dangerous journey or task**, and they contain supernatural creatures.
 - Review the “Read and Think Critically” handout.
- 



See you next Monday to continue with the texts in Unit 6.

Ms. Billett