

Maya Angelou



Task 1: Knowledge

Find 10 basic biographical facts about Maya Angelou. These may include dates of birth and death, places lived in, major works, whether she was married or had children etc. and what awards she won for her writing. Make sure you write them in full sentences and in your own words.

[illegible]

Task 5: Skills and Understanding

Maya Angelou's most famous works are the six volumes she wrote in prose about her own life. They begin with the text 'I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings'. Critics argue over whether these works are autobiography, autobiographical fiction or memoirs. Find out what each of these terms means and then read a chapter of one section of her life story. How does Angelou write? How is this different from what might be expected in an autobiography? Make sure all your work is in full sentences and in your own words.

[illegible][illegible]

Task 2: Knowledge and Understanding

Maya Angelou wrote in a number of different styles. What types of things did Angelou typically write about in her poetry? What things particularly appealed to her? You might find some of the interviews she has done for newspapers and magazines over the years and use these for information. Remember all your work should be in your own words.

[illegible]

Task 4: Knowledge and Skills

'Still I Rise' was one of the poems written to directly address the issues of racism, prejudice and the scars of the slave trade. What can you learn about the Jim Crow era in America and the civil rights movement? What key political figures from the civil rights movement were known to Maya Angelou? Find images and information about these figures. Remember to use your own words and put your work in full sentences.

[illegible][illegible]

Task 3: Skills

Now it's time to put Angelou's life in perspective. Use the key events of Angelou's life to fill in the top timeline. Find out what key events have occurred in American and world history during her life and attach those to the bottom timelines. Look particularly for events in the civil rights movement as Angelou was very involved in the fight for equality in America. She also became involved in a number of political campaigns (campaigning for key presidential candidates over the years). Look for these events. What does this show about Angelou's politics and interests?

Angelou's Life:



American History:



World History:

