

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **“Thank You, Ma’am” Focus Questions**

1. Why does Mrs. Luella Bates Washington Jones take Roger home and feed him dinner?
2. What lessons might Mrs. Jones hope Roger will learn from this experience?
3. Why does Roger choose not to run when he has the opportunity to escape Mrs. Jones' home?
4. Why can Roger not say thank you or anything else to Mrs. Jones before she closes the door at the end of the story?
5. There is little to no direct characterization in this story. How does Langston Hughes use indirect characterization to help the reader come to conclusions about Mrs. Jones and Roger?
6. Does Langston Hughes create believable characters? Are Mrs. Jones and Roger round or flat characters? Give evidence from the text to support your answer.