

# United colours of Harlem

What makes Harlem such an inspiring neighbourhood?

**FINAL TASK**

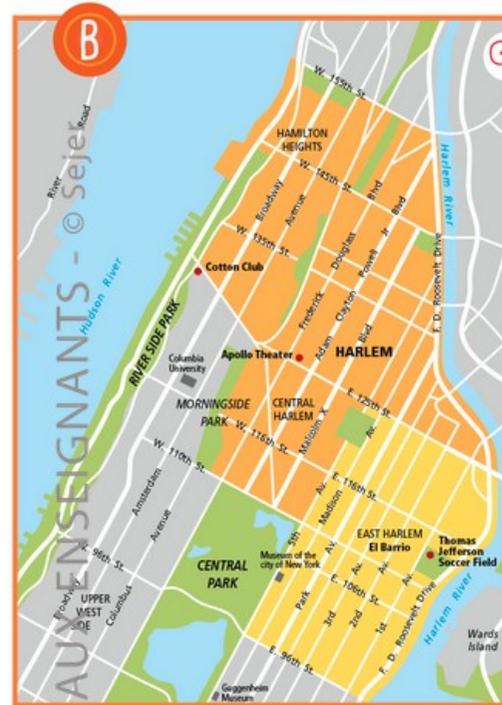


Write a short poem about Harlem and recite it.

More on  
**SPEAKEASY NEWS**  
speakeasy-news.com



▲ Harlem mural of Dizzy Gillespie by Brandon "B Mike" Odums and Marthalicia Matarrita, 229 W 135th St, 2014



▲ The City of New York and its boroughs, with a focus on Harlem.

**Harlem history**

live MP3



**WORDS**

- ◆ borough /'bʌrəʊ/
- ◆ brownstone building
- ◆ landmark
- ◆ legacy = heritage
- ◆ mural
- ◆ neighbourhood (UK) / neighborhood (US)
- ◆ street art
- ◆ bright ≠ dark
- ◆ colourful (UK) / colorful (US)
- ◆ famous ≠ unknown
- ◆ tiny ≠ huge
- ◆ celebrate
- ◆ pay tribute to

**DISCOVER AND SHARE**

Join your team and focus on one of the documents.

**Doc A** Look at the picture and describe what you see. What first impression does it give of Harlem?

**Doc B** Focus on the maps and comment on the landmarks you can see.

**Doc C** Listen to the document and find out about the role played by Harlem as a neighbourhood and the obstacles it has to deal with.

**NOW SHARE**

Report on your findings and talk about Harlem, its geography and history, and its notoriety with the class.

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# 1. The Harlem Renaissance

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## Culture boom in Harlem



▲ Count Basie and other American musicians in a jazz club in Harlem, 1938

- Watch the video and say when and why Harlem became an African-American cultural centre. **STRATEGIES** p. 214
- Explain what the Harlem Renaissance was about and make a list of the types of intellectuals, artists and musicians who were key parts of the movement.
- Find out what the Harlem Renaissance artists fought against.

### YOUR TASK

Write a short article for a culture magazine to explain how the Harlem Renaissance changed the world's perception of African Americans.

**AT HOME** Choose an artist from the Harlem Renaissance and introduce him/her to the class; describe his/her main theme or work.

### CULTURE SPOT

During the **Harlem Renaissance**, from the 1920s to the mid-1930s, the mostly African-American Harlem neighbourhood developed and bloomed through arts such as literature, music and dance. It influenced art and black people's culture for years.

### BOOST YOUR SKILLS!

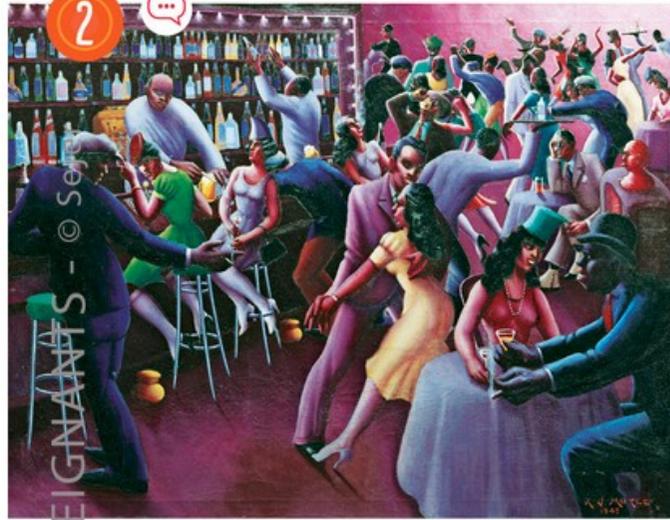
Donner un exemple

- One of the key components was...
- Intellectuals such as...
- This era was also when...

### WORDS

- band: groupe
- equality ≠ inequality
- issue = problem
- poetry /'pœʊtri/
- well-known = famous
- argue = debate
- defend a cause
- have an impact on = influence

2



▲ Nightlife, Archibald Motley, Jr., 1943

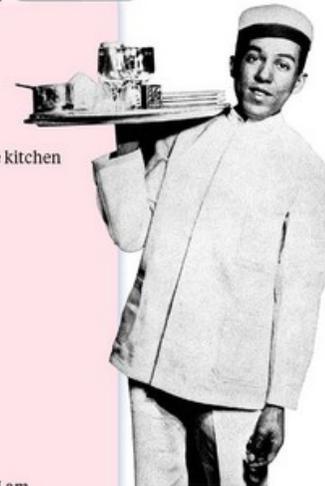
SPÉCIMEN RÉSERVÉ AUX ENSEIGNANTS - © Sejer

PARCOURS DIFFÉRENCIÉS **live!** MP3

## I, Too

I, too, sing America.  
 I am the darker brother.  
 They send me to eat in the kitchen  
 When company<sup>1</sup> comes,  
 5 But I laugh,  
 And eat well,  
 And grow strong.  
 Tomorrow,  
 I'll be at the table  
 10 When company comes.  
 Nobody'll dare<sup>2</sup>  
 Say to me,  
 "Eat in the kitchen,"  
 Then.  
 15 Besides,  
 They'll see how beautiful I am  
 And be ashamed<sup>3</sup>—  
 I, too, am America.

Langston HUGHES, "I, Too", 1926



▲ Langston Hughes working as a waiter. The African-American writer waited on tables to support himself.

1. guests 2.oser 3. avoir honte

- Look at the painting and identify where the scene takes place. **STRATEGIES** p. 213
- Describe movements and colours and comment on the atmosphere.
- Explain how the painting *Nightlife* was influenced by the Harlem Renaissance.

### WORDS

- defiance = resistance
- evolution
- free verse: vers libres
- jazz music
- hope = expectations
- Lindy hop, Charleston: styles de danse
- bustling night club
- repetition
- rhythm
- segregation
- servant: domestique
- stanza: strophe
- proud ≠ ashamed
- defiant ≠ submissive
- strong ≠ weak
- expect sb to + BV
- repeat

### CULTURE SPOT

**Langston Hughes** (1902-1967) was a poet, novelist and activist particularly known for his representations of black life in America. He moved to Harlem as a young man and lived there most of his adult life.

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EXPLORE

2. Gentrification

1

“The Times They Are A Changin’”

The first time Camilo José Vergara pointed his camera at the corner of 125th Street and Malcolm X Boulevard, it was 1989.

The Whole Foods Market<sup>1</sup> opened in 2017 and, to be fair, will surely bring fresher produce and better meat to a neighborhood where such things can be scarce<sup>2</sup>. (At prices, however, that many residents cannot pay.) New construction is not inherently bad just because it is new. But here, as in so many other places, an interesting building that was very much anchored<sup>3</sup> in its time and place has given way to one that is very much not.

Christopher BONANOS, *nymag.com*, 2017

1. An American supermarket chain known for its organic products  
2. rare 3. *ancré*

The corner of 125th Street and Malcolm X Boulevard



The end of black Harlem?

By MICHAEL HENRY ADAMS, author of *The End of Black Harlem*, 2016

I have lived in Harlem for half my life – 30 years. I have seen it in all its complexities: a cultural nexus<sup>1</sup> of black America, the landing place for Senegalese immigrants and Southern transplants, a home for people fleeing oppression and seeking<sup>2</sup> opportunity. Harlem is the birthplace of so much poetry and music and beauty, but in the eyes of many who have never set foot here, it has long been a swamp<sup>3</sup> of pain and suffering. It is also changing, rapidly. [...]

But when we friends gather at a restaurant [...], we are every color, every race, every age, identity and class. In the moment, laughing, drinking and dancing together, it seems marvelous. This Harlem, this is what New York is supposed to look like, to be like. Only, most of us know that our fun times together are doomed<sup>4</sup>.

1. centre 2. looking for 3. *marais* 4. *condamnés*

WORDS

- ♦ organic food: *aliments bio*
- ♦ prejudice /'pre dʒɔdɪs/: *préjugés*
- ♦ historical ≠ modern, brand new
- ♦ evolve: *évoluer, changer*
- ♦ replace

Focus on Doc 1 or 2.

- Doc 1**
- Comment on the evolution of the building.
  - Read the text and say what is positive and negative about the arrival of Whole Foods Market in Harlem.
  - Comment on the conclusion.
- Doc 2**
- Read the text and pick out elements showing the complexity of Harlem.
  - GRAMMAR** Focus on: “It is also changing, rapidly” (l.8). Comment on the use of *be + V-ing*. • p.24
  - Explain what the author fears.

YOUR TASK

- You are a journalist from Harlem.
- WAY 1** One of the historical buildings in your neighbourhood is going to be replaced by a supermarket. React in a post.
- WAY 2** Write a report on how things evolve in Harlem.

BOOST YOUR SKILLS!

- Témoligner d'une évolution
- It is also **changing, rapidly**.
  - It **has given** way to ...

EXPLORE

3. Harlem success stories

I got nervous before I cooked for President Obama



1



- Listen to the recording and give information about the man (name, country of origin, job).
- Explain how the Red Rooster restaurant reflects Harlem's culture.
- Make a list of the man's achievements.

?



kibonen.ny • Follow

It is throwback<sup>1</sup> every day. Humble beginnings at my little store in Harlem. I felt so achieved as I walked into this place every day. Today the dream is bigger and better and finer. I love what I do and what it represents to humanity, to the #cameroonian girl, to the #african girl and to the #dreamer #africanfashiondesigner #fromafricaforttheworld #fromafricatotheworld #fromafricanewyork #humblebeginnings

frifavour inspiring

bandykiki ❤️

ddtalks Every accomplished dream, no matter how big, has a beginning. You have earned your stripes sis 🌟. #megasizedinfluencer

stephany22 Just love this 🌟❤️

whitebirchcraftco You are so pretty! Keep up your great work! Girl power! 🌟

WORDS

- ♦ achiever
- ♦ success ≠ failure
- ♦ wardrobe: *garde-robe*
- ♦ charismatic
- ♦ influential /ɪnflu'entʃəl/
- ♦ inspiring
- ♦ impressed
- ♦ impressive
- ♦ praise ≠ criticize
- ♦ inspire

1. souvenir

BOOST YOUR SKILLS!

- Faire l'éloge de quelque chose ou de quelqu'un
- It may seem like Marcus Samuelsson **was born to cook**.
  - **The biggest hits** on Red Rooster's menu include...
  - Today the dream is **bigger and better and finer**.
  - You have **earned your stripes**.

🏠 **AT HOME** Find a success story from Harlem and present it to the class. Talk about the links between this person and Harlem.

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## 4. Community life

**1** <https://www.harlem.projectplay.us>

**THE ASPEN INSTITUTE PROJECT PLAY**



Ibrahim Cisse is a vibrant, confident sixth-grader. But when he moved to East Harlem from the Ivory Coast four years ago, he was a wide-eyed 8-year-old boy who knew no one and spoke little English. It was Ibrahim's passion for soccer that pushed him to play at his local park and join the afterschool sports program. Although his new friends spoke different languages, Ibrahim saw cultural and linguistic differences as opportunities, not barriers. "I like to talk to people and learn from them," he said. "You can learn a lot from people who are different from you."

The city program provides<sup>1</sup> him and hundreds of other kids with a safe place to meet and play and offers academic tutoring and mentoring opportunities as well. Ibrahim's transformation from isolated outsider to child athlete, peer mentor and community ambassador has made him wise<sup>2</sup> beyond his years. "People need to start realizing that there is no difference between us – white or any other color," he said. "We are all the same. We need to listen to each other and respect each other."

**ABOUT US >**  
Rule number one to get kids active through sports: Ask Kids What They Want. Who better to know their experiences than kids themselves? To mobilize around growing the quality and quantity of youth sports in East Harlem, youth must have a platform for their voices to be heard as a part of the decision-making process.

**WORDS**

- ♦ food stall
- ♦ solidarity
- ♦ charming
- ♦ culturally diverse
- ♦ delicious
- ♦ traditional
- ♦ welcoming
- ♦ discover
- ♦ improve
- ♦ support: soutenir
- ♦ taste

**1. offers 2. sage**

**PARCOURS DIFFÉRENCIÉS** → p. 6

- Read the article, find out who Ibrahim Cisse is, and say what difficulties he faced when he moved to Harlem.
- Explain how the afterschool sports programme helped him.
- Compare how Ibrahim was when he arrived and how he is today.
- Describe what Project Play does for young people like Ibrahim.

**WORDS**

- ♦ food stall
- ♦ solidarity
- ♦ charming
- ♦ culturally diverse
- ♦ delicious
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- ♦ welcoming
- ♦ discover
- ♦ improve
- ♦ support: soutenir
- ♦ taste

**/trə'diʃənl/**

**2** <https://www.116thfestival.com>

**Celebrating 34 years**

Event-goers from around the country are expected to gather at this year's festival, which anticipates more than 200,000 guests. People of all ethnicities and backgrounds are welcome to join in the fun, learn about Hispanic culture, and enjoy a family-friendly outing. The 116th Street Festival started in 1985 as "Abrazo Fraternal" and has grown to encompass<sup>1</sup> 20 blocks, and on the day of the festival, people for miles will hear the sounds of Hispanic and various music and smell the aromas of mouthwatering Hispanic dishes. The famous festival continues to bring an economic advantage to the neighborhood as well as offer a communal atmosphere for Hispanics and anyone who wishes to learn more about the fun-loving culture that boasts<sup>2</sup> decadent music, food, and more.

The 116th Street Festival offers various performances, new and classic Hispanic foods, and a fun, electrified atmosphere.



**1. include 2. show off**

- Focus on the name and logo of the website. What kind of event is it? Guess what the two countries represented are.
- Read the document and explain what the festival is about and who it is open to.
- Explain what the neighbourhood and the visitors can benefit from this festival.
- Find examples showing how diversity is a key element of the festival.

**AT HOME** Go on the Festival's official website and find ideas of activities to do there.

**TEST YOUR CULTURE**

**1 HOW TO PLAY "KNOW YOUR WAY ROUND HARLEM"**  
Play in groups of two to four pupils. Start with a capital of three tokens. Walk around Harlem and answer the questions to test your knowledge about the neighbourhood. If you answer correctly, you may collect your tokens. If you cannot answer correctly, you lose the number of tokens that the question is worth. The group with the most tokens wins a meal at Red Rooster!

**GAME ON!**



- Harlem is located...**
  - in the northern part of Manhattan.
  - in the western part of the Bronx.
  - in the southern part of Brooklyn.
- The Harlem Renaissance is known for...**
  - rock music.
  - jazz music.
  - rap music.
- Dizzie Gillespie was...**
  - a singer.
  - a musician.
  - a painter.
- Langston Hughes's poems dealt with...**
  - discrimination.
  - nature.
  - war.
- What is Project Play?**
  - An association created to build houses for young orphans.
  - An association to promote sports in the neighbourhood.
  - An association for young people to learn how to play jazz.
- What is gentrification?**
  - It is when men behave like gentlemen.
  - It is when a neighbourhood becomes richer.
  - It is when a neighbourhood becomes more violent.
- What is Kibonen's goal?**
  - To have one million followers on Instagram.
  - To bring American fashion to Cameroon.
  - To make Cameroon's fashion known throughout the world.
- El Barrio is the nickname of...**
  - Harlem.
  - West Harlem.
  - East Harlem.
- Chef Marcus Samuelsson is famous because...**
  - he fought against segregation.
  - he cooks dressed up as a rooster.
  - he appears on the TV show "Top Chef".
- The 116th Street Festival celebrates...**
  - African-American culture.
  - Hispanic culture.
  - Asian culture.

**Grammar**

**Évoquer des faits présents**

PRÉCIS 12 ET EXERCICES

Pour évoquer des faits, des généralités ou des habitudes, on utilise le **présent simple**, souvent avec des adverbes de fréquence tels que *often, always, sometimes, never*, etc.

Pour décrire des faits actuels ou en cours, parler d'un événement imminent, attirer l'attention sur quelque chose, on utilisera le **présent en be + V-ing**.



**Présent simple**  
Auxiliaire : do/does ou don't/doesn't  
Attention au s à la 3<sup>e</sup> pers. du sing.

**Présent be + V-ing**  
Auxiliaire : be au présent

**1 Complète ces phrases avec les éléments suivants.**

- but today
- more and more
- nowadays
- every year
- usually

- a. ..., many Manhattanites are settling down in Harlem.
- b. She ... takes the subway to work, ... she's walking to see the changes in her neighbourhood.
- c. They are being ... disrespectful to Harlemites!
- d. ..., Project Play helps kids who love sports.

**2 Mets les verbes au présent simple ou au présent en be + V-ing selon le sens.**

- a. She (*feel*) so proud of being a Harlemiter.
- b. These days, the area (*evolve*) and (*change*).
- c. Usually, I (*not / oppose*) gentrification, but I (*not / like*) the changes they (*make*) in Harlem.
- d. (*you / buy*) an apartment in Harlem? You're right. This is the perfect moment to do so.

**3 Mets ces phrases au présent simple ou en be + V-ing selon le sens. Attention au sujet et à la forme demandée entre parenthèses.**

- a. She (*help*) young people succeed thanks to her association. (affirmative)
- b. Harlemites (*be enthusiastic*) about change? (interrogative)
- c. I (*know*) Harlem very well. (negative)
- d. You (*come*) to the 116th Street Festival? (interrogative)
- e. At the moment, at school, we (*study*) poems by African-American writers. (affirmative)
- f. Kibonon (*live*) the dream! (affirmative)

**4 Tu es guide touristique à Harlem. Prépare ta présentation à l'écrit :**

- donne des généralités sur le quartier ;
- décris les habitudes des habitants ;
- évoque les changements actuels.

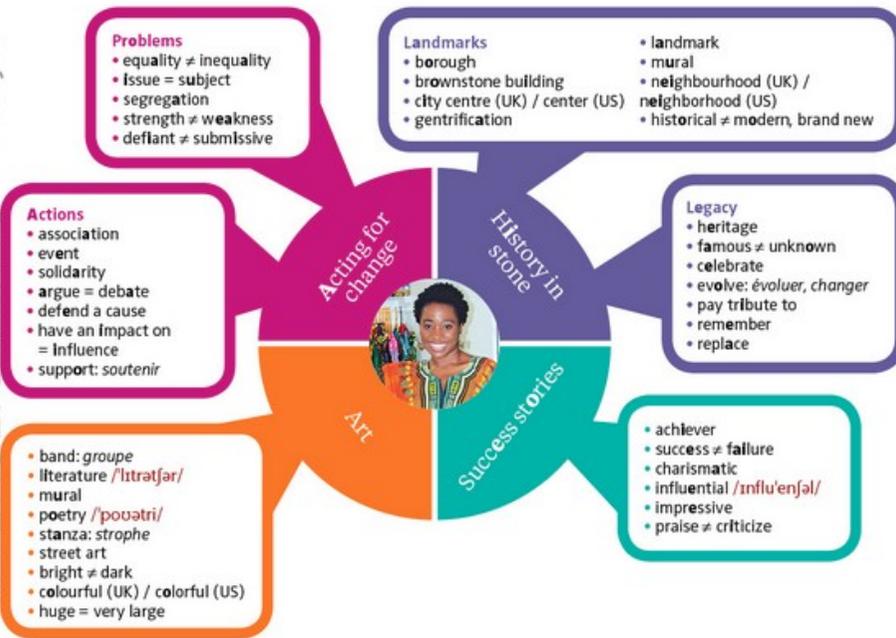
More in **Pump it up!** p. 18-21

**Vocabulary**

**Harlemite and proud**



SPÉCIMEN RÉSERVÉ AUX ENSEIGNANTS - © Sejer



**1 Associe chaque mot à sa définition.**

- mural* – *achiever* – *borough* – *gentrification* – *stanza*
- a. a person who has success
  - b. a group of lines in a poem
  - c. one of the five districts of New York City
  - d. making a neighbourhood more attractive for middle-class inhabitants
  - e. a piece of art executed directly on a wall

**2 Complète ces phrases avec les mots de la liste.**

- celebrates* – *influential* – *neighbourhood* – *colourful* – *inequalities* – *huge*
- a. Harlem is a ... of Manhattan.
  - b. A lot of associations fight against social ...
  - c. Every year, the 116th Street Festival ... Hispanic culture.
  - d. When you walk around Harlem, you can see ... murals.
  - e. The Harlem Renaissance was a very ... artistic movement.

**Phonology**

**La prononciation des graphies <a> et <i>**

More in **Pump it up!** p. 76-77

Les graphies <a> et <i> ne se prononcent pas toujours de la même manière en anglais.

- /æ/* cat / */ə/* admit / */ɒ/* watch / */ɔ:/* talk / */ɑ:/* car / */eɪ/* face / */eə/* care / */ɪ/* live / */aɪ/* alive / */ɜ:/* third

**1 Écoute et répète ces mots : concentre-toi sur la prononciation de la lettre <a>.**

- Puis classe-les selon leur prononciation.**  
*artist* – *gentrification* – *flat* – *bar* – *association* – *walk* – *Harlem* – *satchel* – *mural* – *what*

**2 Écoute et répète ces mots : concentre-toi sur la prononciation de la lettre <i>.**

- Puis classe-les selon leur prononciation.**  
*history* – *innovate* – *village* – *entire* – *refurbish* – *bird* – *defiant* – *pride*

REPRODUCTION ET VIDÉO PROJECTION INTERDITES - © Sejer

## FINAL TASK

### Write a short poem about Harlem and recite it.

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Harlem Renaissance, associations from the neighbourhood are organising a poetry competition. Take part in this competition: write a short poem to celebrate Harlem, then recite it in front of the jury.

- 1 Choose an aspect of Harlem: history, famous person, landmark, community spirit, art, success story.
- 2 Think of the message you would like to convey through your poem.
- 3 The element you have chosen will be the speaker of your poem: **imagine** what he/she/it would say and take notes.
- 4 Write your poem, **sharing** your impressions and feelings.
- 5 Learn your own poem by heart, then **recite** it in class.

### YES YOU CAN! Write a poem and recite it

#### POINT DE VUE

Décide qui parle dans ton poème : une personne, un groupe, un objet, un bâtiment ?  
"I am the darker brother."

#### FIGURES DE STYLE

Enrichis ton poème avec des métaphores, des comparaisons, des images. Fais allusion aux cinq sens : sons, couleurs, odeurs, etc.  
« grow strong »  
« how beautiful I am »

#### SUJET

Choisis le thème de ton poème et le message véhiculé. Tu peux évoquer les difficultés, l'évolution et les solutions trouvées.

"They send me to eat in the kitchen  
When company comes,  
But I laugh,  
And eat well,  
And grow strong."

#### PROSODIE

La poésie permet beaucoup de liberté. Essaie d'inclure des rimes, des répétitions, des allitérations.  
« I, too, sing America.  
[...]  
I, too, am America. »

#### DÉCLAMATION

Écoute à nouveau le poème de Langston Hughes page 19. Puis récite ton poème en mettant bien le ton, en faisant attention à l'intonation, aux mots accentués et au rythme des phrases. Sois dynamique et convaincu.

STRATÉGIES Enrichir son vocabulaire p. 218

### Compréhension de l'oral Comprendre un reportage

AUTO-ÉVALUATION  
WB → p. 7

TEST YOUR SKILLS



#### A tour of East Harlem



- A2 1. Watch the video and give two other names for "East Harlem".
2. Explain why Harlem has more than just one name.
- B1 3. Say who founded the Museo Del Barrio and when.
4. Explain what the goal of the Museo Del Barrio is.
- B1+ 5. Give information about Tito Puento (date of birth, achievements) and say how the city of New York paid tribute to him.

### Compréhension de l'écrit Comprendre un article de journal

#### Making films in and about Harlem

By Stacy Parker Le Melle 01/24/2017

I recently had the opportunity to talk with filmmaker Nadhege Ptah about her experiences as both an independent filmmaker and a local mom in Harlem. I first saw her short film *Dodo Titi* in 2016 and was impressed by the poignant way she told the story of a Black nanny<sup>1</sup> who felt that her employers valued the family dog more than her.

How has Harlem inspired you as an artist?

Harlem has a bold and spicy flavor<sup>2</sup> filled with electrical energy of entertaining people. As an actor and writer it's a great place to watch and study, it fuels the creative juices. Also, the legacy, history, and memories still linger<sup>3</sup> with the elders in the community, like my former neighbor who passed<sup>4</sup> and shared personal stories of his friendship with Malcolm Little before he became Malcolm X. One can't learn that from the history books.

What are your homelands? How does "home" figure into your work?

I was born in America, but raised culturally by my parents' homeland in Haiti. So, I experienced being in between two culturally different homelands. I was navigating the African American experience with a Haitian upbringing. My inner world of imagination was home for me, it allowed me to feel safe, create my own and be accepted without having to prove my allegiance in language, music, food, etc.

- A2 1. Before you read the text, say what type of document this is.
2. Focus on the first paragraph. Identify who "I" and "she" refer to. Find their respective jobs.
3. In the movie *Dodo Titi*, who do the employers prefer: their pet, or their employee? Justify with a quote from the text.
- B1 4. Explain what Nadhege Ptah has learnt from the inhabitants of Harlem.
- B1+ 5. Explain how Nadhege Ptah's bicultural identity has influenced her work.

1. nounou  
2. saveur  
3. stay  
4. die