The Harlem Renaissance

Langston Hughes Speaks Through Poetry

Read the poem “Let America be America Again.” Then answer the following questions.

1. To whom do you think the voice in parenthesis belongs? Explain why?
2. Name some of the demographic groups that Langston Hughes mentions in the poem.

How does his poem attempt to unify some of these groups while expressing frustration with their experience?

1. Give four examples of the way in which Langston Hughes uses the history of the United States. For example, list the era or time period to which he refers.
2. Overall, do you find the poem hopeful or despairing? Explain why?

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