**Student \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_\_ Block \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Instructions: COMPLETE ALL QUESTIONS AND MARGIN NOTES using the CLOSE reading strategies practiced in class. This requires reading of the article three times.**

**Step 1: Number** the paragraphs. **Skim** the article using these **colors** and **symbols** as you read:

BOX -UNKNOWN WORDS/DEFINITIONS | PENCIL- questions/insights/impressions

**(\*)** important, **(!)** surprising, **(?)** wondering, [**(+)** agree, **(-)** disagree]

**Step 2:** Define the vocabulary that has been boxed for you. Choose an appropriate synonym that has the same part of speech as the term. Write the synonym above each boxed term to help you better understand the excerpt.

**Step 3: Read** the article **carefully**, **highlight text, and make associated notes in the margin**. Notes should include:

* BLUE -strong connotation/denotation (diction/word choice)
* YELLOW-big ideas (write a summary statement of important ideas for each major section)
* PENCIL- questions/insights/impressions
* GREEN- elements of argumentation (claims/assertions, evidence/grounds)
* PURPLE - literary devices, tropes
* PINK- methods of development/organization

**Step 3:** A **final quick read** noting anything you may have missed during the first two reads.

Your **margin notes** are part of your score for this assessment. Answer the questions carefully in **complete sentences** unless otherwise instructed.



# Article of the Week #6

# Legendary author Maya Angelou dies at age 86

By **Todd Leopold, Ashley Fantz, Moni Basu** and **Faith Karimi**, CNN

June 19, 2014

**(CNN)** -- A literary voice revered globally for her poetic command and her commitment to civil rights has fallen silent. Maya Angelou died at her home in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, on Wednesday, said her literary agent, Helen Brann. Angelou had been "frail" and suffering from heart problems, the agent said.

Maya Angelou left behind

Angelou's legacy is twofold. She leaves behind a body of important artistic work that influenced several generations. But the 86-year-old was praised by those who knew her as a good person, a woman who pushed for justice and education and equality.

In her full life, she wrote staggeringly beautiful poetry. She also wrote a cookbook and was nominated for a Tony. She delivered a poem at a presidential inauguration. In 2010, President Barack Obama named her a recipient of the [Presidential Medal of Freedom](http://www.whitehouse.gov/photos-and-video/video/2011/02/15/2010-presidential-medal-freedom-ceremony), the country's highest civilian honor.

She was friends with Malcolm X and the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and inspired young adults and world celebrities. She sang calypso. She lived through horrors.

Her lasting contribution to literature, "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," bore witness to the brutality of a Jim Crow South, portraying racism in stark language. Readers learned of the life of Marguerite Ann Johnson (Angelou's birth name) up to the age of 16: how she was abandoned by her parents and raped by her mother's boyfriend. She was homeless and became a teen mother.

Its publication was both daring and historic, given the era of its debut in 1969.

"All of the writers of my generation must honor the ground broken by Dr. Maya Angelou," author Tayari Jones posted on her Facebook page Wednesday.

"She told a story that wasn't allowed to be told," Jones said. "Now, people tell all sorts of things in memoir, but when she told the truth, she challenged a taboo -- not for shock value, but to heal us all."

Black American novelist Julian Mayfield is said to have described the autobiography as "a work of art which eludes description." "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" was an international bestseller and nominated for a National Book Award in 1970.

"If you want to know what it was like to live at the bottom of the heap before, during and after the American Depression, this exceptional book will tell you," hailed British critic Paul Bailey. The book became a mainstay of student reading lists, much to the chagrin of some authorities. The book has [reportedly](http://www.latimes.com/books/jacketcopy/la-jc-avert-your-eyes-a-gallery-of-banned-book-006-photo.html) been [banned numerous times](http://bannedbooks.world.edu/2011/10/30/banned-books-awareness-caged-bird-sings/).

Angelou's mastery of literature trumped those who tried to keep her down. She knew that storytelling always won in the end.

"I want to write so well that a person is 30 or 40 pages in a book of mine ... before she realizes she's reading," Angelou once said.

On Wednesday, people of all ages and backgrounds took to social media to say what her life's work meant to them. Adrian Sean of Detroit posted a [CNN iReport tribute](http://ireport.cnn.com/docs/DOC-1138112), saying, "I cannot describe the feeling I had when I read 'I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings' for the first time, and knew someone else in the world had been through extreme hardships just as I had.

"She not only survived, but she thrived just by being herself," she said. "Maya Angelou was and still is a teacher, a mentor, and a friend to me. Her impact on my life will always have a special place in my heart."

Angelou Part 2

**From dropout to Dr. Angelou**

Angelou spent her early years studying dance and drama in San Francisco, but dropped out of school at age 14.

When she was 16, Angelou became San Francisco's first female streetcar driver. Angelou later returned to high school to get her diploma. She gave birth a fewweeks after graduation. While the 17-year-old single mother waited tables to support her son, she developed a passion for music and dance, and toured Europe in the mid-1950s in the opera production "Porgy and Bess." In 1957, she recorded her first album, "Miss Calypso." In 1958, Angelou become a part of the Harlem Writers Guild in New York and played a queen in "The Blacks," an off-Broadway production by French dramatist Jean Genet.

"I created myself," Angelou once said. "I have taught myself so much."

Angelou spoke at least six languages and worked as a newspaper editor in Egypt and Ghana.

Affectionately referred to as Dr. Angelou, the writer never went to college. But she has more than 30 honorary degrees and taught American studies for years at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem.

"Maya Angelou has been a towering figure -- at Wake Forest and in American culture. She had a profound influence in civil rights and racial reconciliation," Wake Forest University President Nathan O. Hatch said Wednesday. "We will miss profoundly her lyrical voice and always keen insights."

The university published [a tribute site](http://mayaangelou.wfu.edu/video/) which features her last speaking engagement at Wake Forest.

Angelou was a proud woman, which occasionally made problems for her hosts and students.

One observer, escorting her to a speech, remembers greeting her casually, only to be told to address her as "Ms. Angelou." Her students at Wake Forest could be as blistering as they were complimentary. "A fantastic motivator and I hope to have more of her classes in the future," wrote one anonymous commenter on RateMyProfessors.com, while another assessed her as a "wonderful writer, but fame does not imply a right to insult or demean others."

Angelou talked about her approach to teaching on Oprah Winfrey's "Oprah's Master Class."

"I teach all the time, as you do and as all of you do—whether we know it or not, whether we take responsibility for it or not," she said. "I hold nothing back because I want to see that light go off. I like to see the children say, 'I never thought of that before.' And I think, 'I've got them!'"

Winfrey released a statement Wednesday calling Angelou her mentor, "mother/sister" and friend.

"She was there for me always, guiding me through some of the most important years of my life. The world knows her as a poet but at the heart of her, she was a teacher. 'When you learn, teach. When you get, give' is one of my best lessons from her," Winfrey said.

"But what stands out to me most about Maya Angelou is not what she has done or written or spoken, it's how she lived her life. She moved through the world with unshakeable calm, confidence and a fierce grace. I loved her and I know she loved me. I will profoundly miss her. She will always be the rainbow in my clouds."

***Notes on my thoughts, reactions and questions as I read:***

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# Article of the Week #6

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***Notes on my thoughts, reactions and questions as I read:***

**Poetry after childhood tragedy**

Angelou was born April 4, 1928, in St. Louis. She grew up between St. Louis and the then-racially segregated town of Stamps, Arkansas.

The famous poet got into writing after a childhood tragedy that stunned her into silence for years. When she was 7, her mother's boyfriend raped her. He was beaten to death by a mob after she testified against him. "My 7-and-a-half-year-old logic deduced that my voice had killed him, so I stopped speaking for almost six years," she said.

**Surrounded by greats**

Angelou's list of friends is as impressive as her illustrious career.

She counted Rosa Parks, Malcolm X, Winfrey and King, with whom

she worked during the civil rights movement, among her friends.

King was assassinated on her 40th birthday.

In an interview with CNN in January 2009, just days before President

Obama was inaugurated for his first term, Angelou gave her thoughts

about the United States' election of its first black president.

"It was as if someone in the outer sphere said, 'What can we do

to really show how important Martin Luther King was?'"

Seeing Obama about to take office made her feel proud, she said.

"I'm excited. I'm hopeful. I'm talking all the time to people, and

sometimes I've really said it so many times I wonder if I'm coming off

like a piece of tape recording, but I'm very proud to be an American.

"In 30 or 40 years, (the election) will not be considered so incredibly important. ... There will be other people in those next three or four decades who will run for the presidency -- some women, some native American, some Spanish-speaking, some Asian. We're about to grow up in this country."

Obama remembered Angelou on Wednesday, saying she was "one of the brightest lights of our time -- a brilliant writer, a fierce friend, and a truly phenomenal woman."

He noted that she expressed her talents in many ways, but "above all, she was a storyteller" and "her greatest stories were true." The president said his own mother was so inspired by Angelou that she named his sister Maya.

In Los Angeles, iconic music producer Quincy Jones said he was saddened to have lost a "dear friend, colleague and sister." The two collaborated on two songs on Jones' soundtrack for "For Love of Ivy" in 1968, he said, and working with her always "brought joy and love."

**'A long journey'**

In CNN's 2009 interview, Angelou spoke in the way that she came to be famous for, each sentence a crescendo of emotion, a call to everyone to act and to be better.

"Our country needs us all right now to stand up and be counted. We need to try to be great citizens. We are necessary in this country, and we need to give something -- that is to say, go to a local hospital, go to the children's ward and offer to the nurse in charge an hour twice a month that you can give them reading children's stories or poetry," she said. "And go to an old folks' home and read the newspaper to somebody. Go to your church or your synagogue or your mosque, and say, 'I'd like to be of service. I have one hour twice a month.'"You'll be surprised at how much better you will feel," she said. "And good done anywhere is good done everywhere."

"Look where we've all come from ... coming out of darkness, moving toward the light," Angelou once said. "It is a long journey, but a sweet one, bittersweet.

# Article of the Week #6

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From the silence, a louder voice was born.

In her poem ["Caged Bird,"](http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poem/178948) Angelou wrote:

"A free bird leaps

on the back of the wind

and floats downstream

till the current ends

and dips his wing

in the orange sun rays

and dares to claim the sky.

But a bird that stalks

down his narrow cage

can seldom see through

his bars of rage

his wings are clipped

and his feet are tied

so he opens his throat to sing."

***2.* Answer each question in one or more complete sentences.**

1. Twelve Word Summary: Summarize the entire article in twelve words. (think: who, what, when, where, how)
2. *Why was Maya Angelou referred to as “Dr. Angelou” even though she does not have a doctorate?*
3. *Explain the quote “*Look where we've all come from ... coming out of darkness, moving toward the light," Angelou once said. "It is a long journey, but a sweet one, bittersweet.”
4. *What do you think is the theme of this article? Create a thematic statement from your list of abstract thematic ideas (in your reference handbook).*

*9/10.RL.2/4 & 7/8.L.4*

**1. Comprehension questions – answers may be in phrases.**

1. *List some of the occupations Maya Angelou had besides writer.*
2. *Name Maya Angelou’s famous friends.*
3. *How old was Maya Angelou when she died?*
4. *Who has a sister named after Maya Angelou?*
5. *Why did Maya Angelou stop speaking?*

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*What does the “caged bird” represent? Why does it sing? Be specific and detailed in your answer, cite the text in your answer, and use TAG/ICE.*

*9/10 RL.8,10*

*Who are the metaphorical “monsters” in these articles? Be specific and detailed in your answer. Use textual evidence to support your opinion. TAG/ICE*

*9/10.RL.2,5,10*

*What kind of a role do you think Maya played in the civil rights movement? Do additional research as necessary. Use evidence from the text to support your answer. (Don’t forget to use TAG/ICE)*

*9/10.RL.2,5,10*

*Create a bibliographic entry/MLA citation for the article (use your reference book for help). Don’t forget the* ***HANGING INDENT!***

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