



ANSWERS

1. The poem is about what happens when dreams are put on hold and not realized.
2. The poem was written in the 1950s by an African American man, as the U.S. was entering the Civil Rights era. It is a comment on the dreams of Blacks during the 1950s.
3. Enjambement. Line 2: for the reader, it feels like the line itself has “dried up. ” Line 9: for the reader, the line seems to “sag” without punctuation, pushing the reader into the next line for the rest of the thought. Both instances both create tension, and illustrate the meaning of the words Hughes is using.