

## Student Example: Weaving an Author Essay into Your Own Essay

Langston Hughes proclaims in an essay that “we know we are beautiful ... and ugly too” (1926), and this idea is expressed in the story. Both characters understand that humans share both positive and negative qualities and that it is up to the person to change as they see fit. Roger's attitude shifts from a troublesome boy toward one of a young man who looks out for the benefit of others highlighted by his question “Do you need somebody to go to the store,” after proclaiming that he wishes not to be mistrusted by her (p. 3). And Mrs. Luella Bates Washington Jones ends up feeding and trusting Roger even after the robbery attempt. Due to these changes, I think that both characters alter each other and became less selfish virtue ethicists who consider, as Prof. Scanlan's handout (2024) says, “moral education, moral wisdom, friendship and family relationships,” rather than only considering their own happiness. Maybe happiness increases when virtue is about helping others understand, relate, and strengthen relationships.

### Reference:

Hughes, L. (23 June 1926). The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain. *The Nation*.  
<https://www.thenation.com/article/archive/negro-artist-and-racial-mountain/>