

## Louisiana: Our History, Our Home

### *Presentations, Quick Notes & Internet Activities*

#### Chapter 2: Louisiana's Culture

##### Summary:

In this lesson, students will do some quick research on one of Louisiana's famous authors and will use the information to make a Tagxedo word cloud about the writer. Then, they will try their hand at being a writer using an online tool to create an acrostic poem.

**Duration:** 45-60 minutes

##### Notes:

- Test the websites for this lesson ahead of time on your student computer workstations. Microsoft Silverlight (free) is required for Tagxedo. Occasionally, this program must be installed ahead of time.
- Students will be printing two documents in this lesson, one word cloud and one poem. If paper use is an issue, you may want to have them save both files but only print one of them.
- For the research portion of the activity, you may want to assign students to a particular author. If information is lacking on the website, direct students to online resources available at your school.
- Another web tool for writing poetry is: <http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/diamante/>. Extend your students' writing opportunities with this interesting tool. This site works best when students choose two very similar or two opposite people, places, or events as topics. For instance, a student might choose Sojourner Truth and Abraham Lincoln as topics for a diamante poem.

##### Answer Key:

Students will print their Tagxedo word cloud and their acrostic poem. Assessment options vary depending on what you are trying to accomplish at this point in the school year.

Teachers can make a rubric for these student products at <http://rubistar.4teachers.org>, which would be customized to the class's specific situation.