

Why Teach *Moments Make the Man*?

Moments Make the Man offers Canadian classrooms a powerful and contemporary lens into Black history, identity, and lived experience. Set within a more modern historical and social context, the novel explores how everyday choices, systemic pressures, and defining moments shape character, opportunity, and belonging. This perspective allows students to examine Black history not only as something rooted in the distant past, but as an ongoing, evolving story within Canadian society.

The novel supports curriculum goals related to critical literacy, ethical decision-making, identity formation, and social responsibility. Through accessible storytelling and emotionally resonant moments, students are encouraged to reflect on issues such as equity, representation, resilience, and personal agency. These themes align strongly with Canadian priorities around inclusive education, citizenship, and culturally responsive teaching.

Well suited for English Language Arts, Social Studies, Civics, and Equity-focused courses, *Moments Make the Man* invites meaningful dialogue, personal reflection, and cross-curricular learning. The text provides educators with a relevant, student-centred entry point into contemporary Black Canadian narratives—supporting deeper understanding, empathy, and critical engagement in today's classrooms.