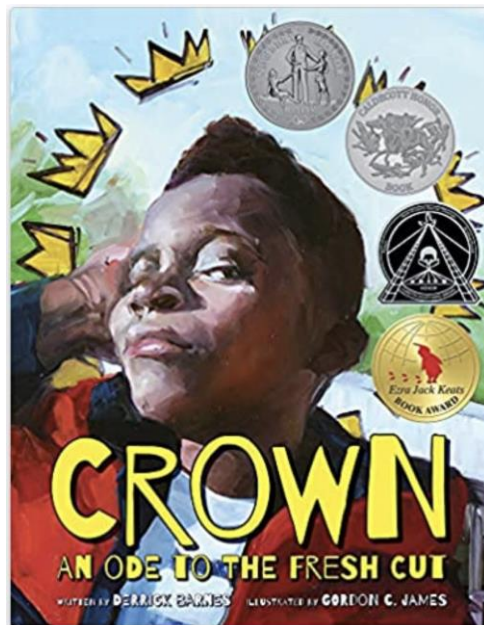


Student Workbook

Unit 3: Language, Race & Identity

Cycle 2: Crown



Name: _____

Date: _____

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Discussion Graphic Organizer

What is the relationship between hair styles and identity?

DIRECTIONS: Use this Graphic Organizer to record notes from each text that responds to the question, or provide evidence for the question.

"CROWN: An Ode to the Fresh Cut" book	"The Story of Black and AfroTexture Hair" video	"The Crown Act: Protecting Cultural and Ethnic Hair Identity" text

Lesson 3

Our Hair!

Questions	Your Thoughts
<p>What are some things you learned about the different ways that hair connects to culture, identity and traditions?</p>	
<p>What personal connections do you make between your hair and your identity?</p>	

The Crown Act: Protecting Cultural and Ethnic Hair Identity

A Presidential Photo With An Important Message

In 2009, 5-year-old Jacob Philadelphia visited former President Barack Obama. At the oval office, the young Black boy touched the former president's hair. A photo of this moment went viral **because** it showed a powerful message. We really need to have laws that protect ethnic hair identity.



Recently, too many schools and businesses were not letting people to wear certain hairstyles. For example, braids, afros, and hair locs. So New York City made it illegal to treat people unfairly for their hairstyles. These unfair policies had the most negative effect on Black people. The new law that protects people's hair rights is called the Crown Act. "Crown" stands for **C**reating a **R**espectful and **O**pen **W**orld for **N**atural Hair.



Why do we need a Crown Act?

Black people's hairstyles have often been described as unprofessional and unacceptable in schools and businesses. **Rather than** celebrating hairstyles that are an important part of their identities, Black people often get into trouble from wearing their hair the way they want.



People who disagree with the Crown Act argue that some hairstyles can be distracting for others. They say that it's necessary for schools and businesses to have rules on how everybody can dress in similar ways. They also argue that many of the banned hairstyles are not *only* worn by Black people. Braiding, cutting, coloring, curling, straightening and styling hair is an individual preference. Opponents think the law confuses people's understanding of identity and ethnicity.

So, do people who wear these hairstyles really need to be protected?



In 2019, a high school athlete named Andrew Johnson was forced to cut his hair locs. Otherwise, he was told that he wouldn't be able to compete in his wrestling match. Many people got angry about this case. In 2021, a young athlete, Nichole Pyles, was also asked to remove the beads in her hair in the middle of her softball game. The umpires said that the softball rule book writes that student athletes are not allowed to wear beads in their hair. To avoid being removed from the game, Nichole made the difficult decision to cut her braids and beads off.

Their hairstyles are such a big part of their identities. But all these athletes had to make the difficult decision to abandon their hairstyles to continue playing the sports that they love.

Black Hair Is A Symbol Of Pride And Protest

Noliwe Rooks is a professor of Africana studies at Cornell University in New York. She says that hair is connected to civil rights. Civil rights are something all people should have to be treated equally regardless of their background.

Black hair has always been a symbol of Black identity and joy. It is something that Black people should not have to give up. But society puts a lot of pressure on Black people to look a certain way in order to fit in. Actually, hairstyles like braids, locs, and twists protect Black hair. Straightening or blow drying Black hair can cause more damage.



The Civil Rights Movement in the United States was important for celebrating Black hair and identity as something beautiful. The Civil Rights Movement was important in making laws that protected people from unfair treatment. But the Crown Act goes one step further by specifically protecting people's *hairstyles*. This can benefit not only the Black community, but also other groups of people. For example, Native American men who have braids.

The Crown Act will help to make sure that we all have the right to express our cultures and identity through our hair!

Lesson 4

Subordinating Conjunctions

A **subordinating conjunction** is a word that is used to connect two ideas in a sentence.

Here are the 3 subordinating conjunctions that we will study today:

1. Because
2. Although
3. Rather than

1. BECAUSE is used when you want to give a reason for something.

Example: Hairstyle can be very important to some people **because** it is a part of their identities.

2. ALTHOUGH is used when you want to compare two different ideas.

Example: **Although** some laws are in place to protect people's rights, they need to be more effective.

3. RATHER THAN is used to show a choice between two ideas.

Example: Some places have decided to ban certain hairstyles **rather than** let people wear their hair however they want.

Glossary

Target Word	Definition	Spanish Translation	Mandarin and Cantonese Translations	Context
Flawless (adjective)	Flawless means to describe something as without a mistake	<i>Perfecto</i> <i>Perfecta</i>	完美无瑕的 wán měi wú xiá de 完美無瑕 yun4 mei5 mou4 ha4	On the first day of school the boy had a magnificent and flawless hair cut.
Masterful (adjective)	Masterful means something that is full of excellence	<i>Maestra</i> <i>Maestro</i>	高超的 gāo chāo de 高超 gou1 ciu1	In a barbershop, the man loves the masterful design crafted on the side of his head.
Visible (adjective)	Visible means something is able to be seen.	<i>Visible</i>	可见的 kě jiàn de 睇得見 tai2 dak1 gin3	Many people believe that hair is an important visible feature of their identity.
Bias (noun)	Bias means when a person or policy favors certain ideas or people over others in an unjust or unfair way.	<i>Parcialidad</i>	偏見 piān jiàn 偏見 pin1 gin3	A Malden Charter School in MA banned hair extensions in classroom. This rule was biased , because black students were more likely to wear extensions than their peers.
Discriminate (verb)	Discriminate means when people or organizations treat people unjustly because of who they are or what they believe.	<i>Discriminar</i>	歧视 qí shì 歧視 kei4 si6	On March 8, 2017, many businesses closed for the event “A Day Without a Woman” to protest discrimination on the basis of gender.
Policy (noun)	A policy is a contract or law made by an institution (like schools or governments)	<i>Política</i>	政策 zhèng cè 政 策 jing3 chaak3	Wearing school uniforms is a policy at many schools.