Name:	is a reporter.	Hour #
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Biographical Report Drafting Notes

Directions: Your biographical report has four different parts: the introduction, the early life of your person, the main events or struggles in their life, and then your explanation as to why this person is a "change maker" or important.

Introduction Paragraph (Paragraph #1)

Flow Map Directions:

Open up your report with a quote, fact, or question.		Why did you choose this person?	State why your person is a changemaker. Why are they		Double check your work! Reread your paragraph out loud to
• Question or Fact		2-3 sentences	important?		yourself.

First Draft Attempt:			

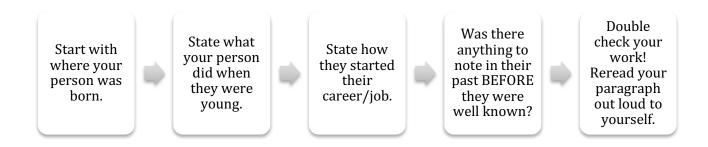
Example:

In his poem *Dreams*, Langston said "Hold fast to dreams/For if dreams die/Life is a broken-winged bird/That cannot fly" (*Poets*). I chose Langston Hughes because of his poetry, and also because of his big impact during the Harlem Renaissance. He inspired many people to fight back against the system, and to let their voices and dreams be heard. Langston Hughes was a changemaker because of his writing.

Name: is a reporter. Hour #

Childhood and Early Life (Paragraph #2)

Flow Map Directions:



First Draft Atte	mpt:			

Example:

Langston Hughes was born in Joplin, Missouri in 1902 ("Hughes, Langston"). His mom was an activity who also wrote poetry (Zieger). It seems that his love of writing came from his family. He graduated from high school in Ohio, and then ended up in New York City at Columbia to study engineering-not literature (Zieger). This is how he came about in New York to take part in the Harlem Renaissance.

η	Name:	is a reporter.	Hour #
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Main Events/Struggles Paragraph (Paragraph #3)

Flow Map Directions:

Start with their first big achievement. List your facts in order.	>	State any struggles or challenges they faced along the way.	•	Make sure you include 2-3 facts about their important work.	•	Double check your work! Reread your paragraph out loud to yourself.
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First Draft Attempt:			

Example:

During the Harlem Renaissance, Langston was outspoken about the lack of rights for African-Americans in America. His goal was to "celebrate differences, convey racial pride, and show the beauty in blackness" (Zieger). His goal was to show how people really lived during this time and also the hard times. Some people did not agree with his poetry or writing. They thought he was too negative, even though Langston said he wanted to show how life really was during that time (Zieger). Langston Hughes died on May 22, 1967 (Zieger).

Name. Is a reporter. Hour #	Name:	is a reporter.	Hour #
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Why My Person is a Change Maker/Important Paragraph (Paragraph #4)

Flow Map Directions:

Start with why your person matters today.	Why are they mportant?	Include any awards they have received.	•	Double check your work! Reread your paragraph out loud to yourself.
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First D	Draft Attempt:			
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Example:

Even after Langston Hughes died, his legacy lives on in writing and in the arts. According to the article, "His success probably inspired other African American poets to experiment with such rhythms in their poetry" ("Hughes, Langston"). He was also one of the first African Americans to earn a living with his writing (Zieger). Many awards were also given to Langston. He was also granted two honorary doctoral degrees (Zieger). Because he had the courage to write, many other people also decided to share their voices.