

Literary Contexts: American Literature

A Streetcar Named Desire in Context

| Suggested Responses

Comprehension Questions

1. Tennessee Williams clung closely to his female relatives because his father, Cornelius Williams, frequently directed his anger at Tennessee.
2. Life; Liberty; the pursuit of Happiness
3. Students' responses will vary but should reference ideas such as equal rights, limitless opportunities, and social order based on ability rather than birth or position.
4. Many white families in the American South owed their wealth to **cotton** and sugar plantations established through the exploitation of **Black** workers as **slave** labor.
5. False
6. c) a hub of poverty and crime.
7. True
8. In 1947, 66.67% or two-thirds of people over age twenty-five had never completed high school.
9. People suffering from mental illness were institutionalized and were given electric shock treatments and surgical lobotomies in the U.S. in the 1940s.
10. He was a gay man; he came from a poor background.

Character Profile – Students' responses will vary.

Dreams in Collision – Students' responses will vary.

Thinking About Themes – Students' responses will vary.

Transcript – For student and teacher use.