Allow students, in groups or individually, to examine the script that follows while answering the questions below in order. The questions are designed to guide students into a deeper analysis of the source and sharpen associated cognitive skills.

**Level I: Description**

1. The play series is called *Great Days in Dayton*, this episode is titled “A City is Born.” What do you think it is about?
2. When do you think this play was performed?
3. Did people hear or see the play, or both?

**Level II: Interpretation**

1. What part would you like to read and why?
2. What does the stage direction [Sleepily] mean?
3. Do you agree with the sponsor about finding this interesting?
4. Do you recognize any of the names in the play?

**Level III: Analysis**

1. How realistic do you think this play is?
2. Why was this play written?
3. Why does the author mix real and fictitious characters together?
4. What will happen next?
"Great Days in Dayton"

Reproduced on these pages is the full script of a "Great Days in Dayton" broadcast. All music and sound effect "cues" are indicated just as they appear on the working scripts used by the cast. The sponsor hopes that you will find interesting these dramatized episodes from the life story of your city.

"Great Days in Dayton" is a Presentation Sponsored by

THE DAYTON POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

SCRIPT No. 1 — "A CITY IS BORN"

MUSIC

Theme for entire series. Inspiring yet not heavy. Starts Fortissimo, then fades behind . . .

ANNOUNCER: Great Days in Dayton!

MUSIC

ANNOUNCER: Listen to the voices of the past!

MUSIC

VOICE 1: I speak to you over a span of a century and a half. In my time cruel and bitter war raged between the white men and the red-skinned savages in the Northwest Territory. Terror and death ruled the wilderness.

VOICE 2: I saw peace made at last. And I saw the birth of a tiny village—a settlement of venturesome pioneers—at the junction of the Miami and Mad rivers in the great Ohio country.

VOICE 3: I saw the early years of struggle and hardship, courage and unceasing toil. I saw a new-born civic spirit that built the village into a town. I saw the few clustered log cabins replaced by hundreds of homes on elm-shaded streets.

VOICE 2: I saw a century of growth and progress, saw the town become a world-famous city. I saw its spirit rise above the tragedy of civil war, above disaster by flood and fire. I saw new progress, new achievements.

VOICE 1: I see the city of today and tomorrow, the industrial capital of a great and fertile valley. I see a great community of better government and better citizenship. Your city. Dayton!

ANNOUNCER: Drama, romance, crisis, triumph! These make the story of Dayton. You will hear that story in this new radio program, sponsored by The Dayton Power and Light Company and brought to you each Sunday at this hour over Station WWHO. These radio dramas, enacted by the professional company of the Dayton Civic Theatre, will bring to life for you the stirring events and scenes in your city's past. The programs originate in the auditorium of the Dayton Art Institute, where at this moment our dramatic company is assembled on the stage and all seats are filled by guests who have come to witness this first broadcast. Later we will tell you how you, too, can be a guest at a "Great Days in Dayton" broadcast. But now I want to present your master of ceremonies, who will act as your guide and narrator in these thrilling historical dramas. He is a man well-versed in Dayton history and well known to Dayton citizens. It is a pleasure to introduce Mr. Charles McLean.

NARRATOR: For many of us, today marks the realization of a dream—a dream of renewing our faith in Dayton. We have believed that nothing could bring about such a renewal better than a vividly dramatic presentation of Dayton's history, such as is possible through the medium of radio. Today that dream and that belief becomes a reality. We are fortunate in having in Dayton a professional dramatic company of unusual size and outstanding talents, as you know if you are familiar with the work of the Dayton Civic Theatre. And we are even more fortunate in our sponsorship. For in The Dayton Power and Light Company we have found an organization which believes, as we do, in renewed civic faith, renewed determination toward greater civic progress and achievement. Thus it is The Dayton Power and Light Company's own belief in the future of Dayton which, above everything else, has made this program possible. (PAUSE) And now let us turn back the pages of history to the year 1795. "Mad Anthony" Wayne had won a last great victory over the Indian tribes of the Ohio lands. In midsummer a peace parley was held at Fort Greenville, thirty-five miles north of where Dayton now stands. There General Wayne met with the chieftains of the Delawares, Chippewas, Wyandots, Miami and other tribes. There were long days of argument, of conflicting claims. But, finally, around the council fires, the disputes of the red and white men were settled. This, then, is the opening scene of our story. Listen! [Mingled cheers and shouts. A long roll of drums brings silence.]

LITTLE TURTLE: Hear me! Hear me! I, Little Turtle, speak well of Great Spirit. I tell you all these rich lands forever domain of Miami. I tell you our forefathers... [Renewed shouts, some in agreement, some in protest.]

THE CRANE: Little Turtle, listen a moment to the words of Tecumseh the Crane. You speak to us of legendslered of Miami. Yet they are not legends of other tribes. The truth is that these broad and fertile lands are lands of all peoples. There is room for all, even for white brothers now that they would join us in peaceful living. Tell us, Red Bird, Chief of the Delawares, is this not true?
See Part 2 for the rest of this document.