IN THE YEAR OF THE BOAR
AND
JACKIE ROBINSON

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READING RIGHT
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Shirley lives in China with her Mother, grandparents, cousins, and other relatives. Her Father lives in America and is planning on bringing he and her mother as soon as he can. When the day comes her grandfather that is American gives Shirley a new name. He asks her what she would like her name to be. The only American name she knew was Shirley Temple, so her grandfather named her Shirley Temple Wong.

In America Shirley is very confused by all the different items she has never seen before. At school she is put in an older grade because the Chinese way of counting makes her age ten, in reality she is only eight. Although at first she cannot understand anyone she quickly learns that she likes baseball. She friends start calling her Jackie Robinson because she bats pigeon-toed like he does. She follows his baseball games faithfully and the highlight of her second year in American was having a chance to meet him in person.
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LESSON 1
Chapter 1-2

1. What happened to cause Bandit to be awakened by a splash of water?

2. Why did Bandit want to take her cousin, Precious Coins, with her to see their grandmother?

3. How does Bandit get the name Shirley Temple Wong?

4. Describe Shirley's new American bed.

5. What is a “matriarch”?

6. Where did the aunt get the idea that she would have to dodge bullets and arrows in American?

7. What did Shirley think the “machine that washes,” was for? What was it really?

8. To what does the author compare the sea? Does that make you think it is calm or stormy?
1. Shirley is 10 by Chinese counting. How old is she in American years?

2. Shirley thought the pole in the corner of the room was to punish the students if they did something wrong. What was it for?

3. After being in school several months, Shirley still hasn't made any friends. List two things that might have kept her from making friends.

4. Explain how you would feel if you couldn't talk to other people and they didn't try to talk to you.

5. What does “escapade” mean?

6. Why does the teacher think there is something wrong with her eyes?

7. When she recited the poem everyone including the teacher laughed. Where did she get the poem?
1. Instead of saying thank you when they are complimented, what is the
Chinese custom?

A. They answer the Chinese words for than you.
B. They deny the compliment so the gods won't get angry.
C. They ignore the compliment because it embarrasses them.

2. Why does Shirley start to go home during the middle of the stickball
game?

3. What is Shirley really saying when she starts repeating, “I pledge a
lesson to the frog...”?

4. What does “dallied” mean?

5. Why does Mable decide to be Shirley's friend?

6. It is important to Shirley that the bird cage be clean before she takes
Toscanini for a walk. Why does she feel that way?

7. Shirley spends a lot of time listening to the Dodger baseball game. Who
does she find so interesting and why?
1. Explain how the hallway came to have red handprints all over it.

2. Why is Shirley afraid to start school again in September?

3. Of whom does the new girl, Emily remind Shirley?
   A. Mabel
   B. Mrs. Rappaport
   C. Fourth Cousin

4. How does Shirley deceive her parents about her babysitting?
   A. She took money out of bank to buy treats.
   B. They think she likes it, but she doesn’t.
   C. She has friend over to help her sit.

5. List 2 reasons why Shirley’s Mother likes her friend Emily.

6. What does your Mother like about your friend (s) ?

7. “Rats Another opportunity”? What does Shirley mean by this?
1. What record did Maria set during the world series?

2. Who is cookie?

3. Family stories make people feel closer. What story does Shirley tell that reminds her family of others?

4. What does “futility” mean?

5. Shirley suddenly becomes angry with her best friend. Explain

6. Describe a time when you were angry with someone and you worked it out.

7. Compare this main character to another one and tell how they are the same.
LESSON 1

1. The servant slipped on the beans and split the water on bandit.

2. Bandit took her cousin with her to see her grandmother because she thought she was in big trouble and her cousin was so well liked she thought it would make it better for her.

3. Bandit got the name Shirley Temple because her grandfather told her to pick a name. Shirley Temple was the only American girls name she knew and she wanted an American name.

4. Shirley’s new American bed consisted of two drawers turned upside down with cushions on them.

5. A matriarch is a woman who rules a family or group.

6. The aunt got the idea about bullets and arrows from American western movies.

7. Shirley thought the machine was to wash people but it was really a washing machine for clothes.

LESSON 2

1. Shirley is eight by American years.

2. The pole was for opening the windows.

3. Answers will vary. The two most important reasons that Shirley has not made friends are her inability to speak English and the fact that she is not very athletic or good at games.
LESSON 2 Cont.

4. It would be very lonely if no one ever tried to talk to you and you couldn't talk to them.

5. Escapade means a mischievous adventure.

6. The teacher thinks there is something wrong with Shirley's eyes because she is always blinking them. She is really trying to wink but she has it wrong.

7. The poem she recited was from a Disney record. She had learned the funny voices of all the different characters, which was why everyone laughed.

LESSON 3

1. B.

2. Shirley A.
3. A

4. When Jessie first started to play his fife a squeal came out instead of music because he was so nervous and scared.

5. C.

6. Answers will vary.

LESSON 4

1. C.
2. B.
3. Purvis and Jessie play Cat's Cradle.

4. Beckoning means the settling of an account.

5. The correct order is 3, 1, and 2.

6. The slaves were wrong in flying the American flag because the boat chasing them was American. The other boat could board them because
they were flying the same flag. If they had flown a different flag the American ship couldn't have boarded them.

LESSON 5

1. Jessie and the black boy hid under the deck as the storm started to rage. After several days they crawled out to find that the crew was dead and the boat was sinking. They grabbed a piece of broken boat wood and managed to get to shore.

2. B.

3. A.

4. Scraggy means unkempt or rough

5. A.

6. Answers will vary