READING PARTNERS

AR4.1A Student Read Aloud Discussion Guide

Vanishing Cultures – Himalayas

Label	Questions and Prompts
Introduction	Tutor should read the "Introduction" page to their student.
Q1	Let's pause and think about what has happened so far in the story. In your own words, tell me the important events. Expected response: *Yangshi's father is telling the story of her great-grandfather being a trader. He brought salt over the mountains to trade in the Saturday market.* Let's write this in our organizer on the worksheet so that we can recount the story when we are finished reading.
Q2	How would you describe the village and the market? Expected response: *The market seems busy with many things people need and everyone in the village goes to the market.* Since everyone in the village is at the market and can get what they need, this sounds important so we should add it to our worksheet.
Q3	How are Yangshi, her sister, and her father spending the morning? Possible Answers: *Going to the monastery; bringing gifts to the Lama to bless the family; spinning prayer wheels at the monastery* What about the morning's events do you think you should add to your organizer? Expected response: *Yangshi goes to the monastery with her father and sister where they get blessings.*
Q4	What are the chores that Yangshi and her family need to do during the day? Expected response: *They pick lettuce, wash clothes, sweep the house, and turn wool into yarn.* How do you want to say this on your worksheet so that you can recount the story when we have finished reading? Expected response: *After the monastery and market there are chores like _____ and ____ that the family must do.* Help your student add details that will make recounting the story possible.

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Q5	The author has told us a lot about yaks throughout the book. What are three ways that we have learned yaks are important to Yangshi and her family? Expected response: *Her great-grandfather used yaks to bring salt from Tibet to trade at the market; her father uses yaks to help mountain climbers; they carry heavy loads to provide food and milk.* How do you want to say this on your worksheet so that you can recount the story when we have finished reading? Expected response: *Yaks are important to Yangshi's family and village, they help carry loads and do work.*
Q6	Why do you think that everyone enjoys the festival so much? Possible responses: *There is dancing and art to look at; festivals are a break from the work*
Q7	Why do you think Yangshi and her sisters love their Himalayan home and are proud? Possible responses: *It is their home; they like the monastery and the monks; the market is where friends meet; they love their family; the festival is fun.* Your student may have another response. If their response reflects what they have read, it is correct. Let's add one last detail to the organizer on your worksheet. What will you add for the end of the book? Expected response: *Yangshi loves her home because _____.* The answer should reflect their response in the previous question.
Q8	Ask the student to read their responses on the graphic organizer. Then, ask the student to use the information from the graphic organizer to recount the story. After reading the following writing prompt out loud, ask the student to tell you what they will write. Then, have them write their response. What are some things that are important to the people who live in the Himalayas, and why are these important? Possible response: *The monastery is important because it is where people go to ask for blessings for their families. The Saturday Market is important because it is where the Tibetans and the Sherpas each bring their goods and trade with each other to get the items they need for their homes. Yaks are important because they are strong animals that carry heavy loads and provide food and milk.*

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