Yeh-Shen
A Cinderella Story from China
Retold by Ai-Ling Louie

Vocabulary Word Unscramble
Unscramble the words. Use the words in the text box for help.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>southern</th>
<th>chores</th>
<th>collapsed</th>
<th>festival</th>
<th>unpleasant</th>
<th>orphan</th>
<th>wondrous</th>
<th>kingdom</th>
<th>stepmother</th>
<th>spirit</th>
<th>goodness</th>
<th>discover</th>
<th>wondrous</th>
<th>goodness</th>
<th>ivory</th>
<th>glimpse</th>
<th>finery</th>
<th>finery</th>
<th>fond</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>eaenyvhl</td>
<td>sunnlpeata</td>
<td>migespl</td>
<td>hcseor</td>
<td>atqenbu</td>
<td>mokndgi</td>
<td>riyefn</td>
<td>hnuorset</td>
<td>teggnisli</td>
<td>oesrvdci</td>
<td>viyro</td>
<td>odalesplc</td>
<td>lvietfas</td>
<td>emdvarle</td>
<td>euadndtun</td>
<td>ptesmooth</td>
<td>noarhp</td>
<td>dinfo</td>
<td>eseird</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. eaenyvhl ________________________________________________
2. sunnlpeata ________________________________________________
3. migespl ________________________________________________
4. hcseor ________________________________________________
5. atqenbu ________________________________________________
6. mokndgi ________________________________________________
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11. viyro ________________________________________________
12. odalesplc ________________________________________________
13. lvietfas ________________________________________________
14. emdvarle ________________________________________________
15. euadndtun ________________________________________________
16. ptesmooth ________________________________________________
17. noarhp ________________________________________________
18. dinfo ________________________________________________
19. eseird ________________________________________________
20. osdonesg ________________________________________________
21. iristp ________________________________________________
22. wrosdoun ________________________________________________
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Working with Words

Complete each sentence using a word from the text box.

1. Yeh-Shen’s father was a cave chief in _______________ China.
2. She was a/an ___________________ after her parents died.
3. As was the _________________ in those days, Yeh-Shen’s father had two wives.
4. Yeh-Shen had skin as smooth as __________________.
5. Yeh-Shen’s stepmother was __________________ of Yeh-Shen’s beauty and goodness.
6. Yeh-Shen had to do the most _______________ chores.
7. Her stepmother was a/an __________________ woman and killed Yeh-Shen’s pet fish and cooked it for dinner.
8. The old man was sent to tell Yeh-Shen of the _______________ powers of her fish.
9. The old man told Yeh-Shen to __________________ before the fish bones and tell them of her desires.
10. Yeh-Shen wanted to go to the _________________, but her stepmother didn’t want any young men to see Yeh-Shen’s beauty.
11. Yeh-Shen knelt before the fish bones and asked for ____________ to wear to the festival.
12. Soon Yeh-Shen was dressed in a/an __________________ of azure blue and a cloak decorated with kingfisher feathers.
13. There was _________________ in the golden shoes and the fish bones told Yeh-Shen to be careful not to lose the golden shoes.
14. Everyone at the festival wanted to know who the ________________ girl was.
15. Yeh-Shen heard her __________________ say that the girl looked like Yeh-Shen, and Yeh-Shen lost one of the golden shoes when she ran home.
16. A __________________ found the shoe and sold it to a merchant.
17. The king was ____________________ to find out who the shoe belonged to.
18. All the women went to the _________________ that day to try on the shoe, but Yeh-Shen didn’t go.
19. Yeh-Shen went to the pavilion that night to get the shoe and return it to the _________________ of the fish bones.
20. The king’s men __________________ followed Yeh-Shen home that night. The king had Yeh-Shen try on the shoes. He married her and Yeh-Shen became queen.
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Comprehension
Answer the questions.

1. How were Yeh–Shen and her stepsister different? ____________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

2. Why didn’t Yeh–Shen’s stepmother want Yeh–Shen to go to the festival? ________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

3. How did Yeh–Shen’s stepmother trick the fish into coming onto the bank of the pond? ________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

4. Why did the old man come to see Yeh–Shen? ____________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

5. What did Yeh–Shen ask the fish bones for on the day of the festival? ________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

6. What did the fish bones give Yeh–Shen to go to the festival? ________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

7. Why did Yeh–Shen run away from the festival? ____________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

8. How did the king get the golden shoe Yeh–Shen had lost? ________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

9. Why did Yeh–Shen go to the pavilion that night? ________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

10. How did the king find out where Yeh–Shen lived? ________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

11. What happened when Yeh–Shen put on the lost shoe? ________________
    ___________________________________________________________________
    ___________________________________________________________________

12. Why didn’t the king allow Yeh–Shen to bring her stepmother and stepsister to the palace after they were married? ________________
    ___________________________________________________________________
    ___________________________________________________________________
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Crossword Puzzle

Complete the puzzle.

Word Bank
jealous
golden
king
China
wondrous
pavilion
festival
orphan
ivory
enormous
unpleasant

Across
2. Yeh-Shen lived in southern ____.
3. Yeh-Shen had beautiful ___ skin and dark eyes.
5. The ___ married Yeh-Shen.
9. Yeh-Shen's stepmother gave her the most ___ chores to do.
10. Yeh-Shen was an _____ because her parents died.
11. Yeh-Shen's stepmother was very __ of Yeh-Shen's beauty.

Down
1. Yeh-Shen went to the ___ at night to get the lost shoe.
4. The old man told Yeh-Shen that the fish bones had ___ powers.
6. Yeh-Shen lost one of the ___ shoes when she ran home from the festival.
7. Yeh-Shen asked the fish bones for clothing to wear to the ___.
8. Yeh-Shen's pet fish was ___ because she fed him every day.
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Quiz

Decide if the following statements are true or false, and circle the appropriate answer.

1. Yeh-Shen’s fish was her only friend.  
   true  false

2. Yeh-Shen’s father had been a doctor in northern China.  
   true  false

3. Yeh-Shen became an orphan and lived with her stepmother.  
   true  false

4. Yeh-Shen’s stepmother and stepsister lived at the palace with her.  
   true  false

5. Yeh-Shen’s stepmother gave her the most unpleasant chores.  
   true  false

6. Yeh-Shen’s stepsister killed Yeh-Shen’s pet fish.  
   true  false

7. The festival was held in the winter.  
   true  false

8. The king knew that he had found his true love.  
   true  false

9. The fish bones gave Yeh-Shen a beautiful dress, cloak, and shoes.  
   true  false

10. Yeh-Shen lost her cloak on the way home from the festival.  
    true  false

11. Yeh-Shen’s stepmother told her that she couldn’t go to the festival.  
    true  false

12. The pavilion was crowded with women who had come to try on the golden shoe.  
    true  false

13. When Yeh-Shen put on the golden shoe, she was transformed into the beautiful girl at the festival.  
    true  false

14. The king and Yeh-Shen were married and lived in the palace.  
    true  false
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Answers to Yeh–Shen
Reading Level 5.1

Page 1:
1. heavenly
2. unpleasant
3. glimpse
4. chores
5. banquet
6. kingdom
7. finery
8. southern
9. glistening
10. discover
11. ivory
12. collapsed
13. festival
14. marveled
15. undaunted
16. stepmother
17. orphan
18. fond
19. desire
20. goodness
21. spirit
22. wondrous

Page 2:
1. southern
2. orphan
3. custom
4. ivory
5. jealous
6. unpleasant
7. crafty
8. wondrous
9. kneel
10. festival
11. clothing
12. gown
13. magic
14. beautiful
15. stepsister
16. villager
17. determined
18. pavilion
19. spirits
20. quietly

Page 3:
ANSWERS WILL VARY—ACCEPT ALL REASONABLE ANSWERS.

1. Yeh–Shen and her stepsister did not have the same mother. Yeh–Shen was very beautiful and kind. Her sister was not beautiful or kind.

2. Yeh–Shen’s stepmother did not want her to go to the festival because she wanted to find a husband for her daughter. She was afraid that the young men would want Yeh–Shen.

3. Yeh–Shen’s stepmother sent her to get wood. The stepmother put on Yeh–Shen’s coat. The fish thought that the stepmother was Yeh–Shen and came up on the bank of the pond. The stepmother stabbed the fish.

4. The old man came to see Yeh–Shen when she was crying about the fish. He told her that the bones of her fish had magical powers. He told her to kneel before the fish bones when she needed help.

5. Yeh–Shen asked the fish bones for clothing to wear to the festival.
6. The fish bones gave Yeh – Shen a beautiful azure blue dress, a cloak with kingfisher feathers, and a pair of beautiful golden shoes.

7. Yeh – Shen overheard her stepsister say that the beautiful girl looked like Yeh- Shen. Yeh – Shen was frightened and ran home.

8. A villager found the golden shoe and sold it to a merchant. The merchant took the golden shoe to the king.

9. The spirits of the fish bones were silent and wouldn’t speak with Yeh – Shen because she lost the golden shoe. She went to the pavilion that night to get the shoe to give it to the spirits.

10. The king and his men were watching the pavilion and saw Yeh– Shen take the golden shoe. They quietly followed her to her home.

11. When Yeh – Shen put on the lost golden shoe, she was instantly the beautiful girl everyone saw at the festival.

12. The king would not allow Yeh – Shen’s stepmother and stepsister to live at the palace because of the way they had treated Yeh – Shen.

Page 4:  
Down: 1. pavilion, 4. wondrous, 6. golden, 7. festival, 8. enormous.

Page 5: 1. true 8. true  
2. false 9. true  
3. true 10. false  
4. false 11. true  
5. true 12. true  
6. false 13. true  
7. false 14. true