

Chinese Cinderella.

Task 1.

As you read Chinese Cinderella, complete the chart below, showing the positives, negatives and interesting elements in Adeline's life.

P	M	I
The pluses in Adeline's life	The minuses in Adeline's life.	The interesting elements in Adeline's life.

Task 2.

Using the information in your chart, answer the following questions.

1. What events are significant in shaping Adeline's personality and resilience? Consider national as well as personal events.
2. In what ways does Adeline show herself to be different in temperament to her brothers and sisters?
3. While Yeh Mah states in the preface that "it is important to be truthful" and this story is autobiographical, is it always possible to tell a story exactly the way it happened? Consider the factors that might influence the storyteller.
4. In pairs discuss Yen Mah's statement "Please believe that one single positive dream is more important than a thousand negative realities" What do you think she means?

Task 3. You will find the author's note in the front of Chinese Cinderella very helpful for the exercises below as well as in your reading of the book itself.

1. Match the Yen children's European names with their place in the Yen family.

Lydia	Big Brother
Gregory	Forth Younger Brother
Edgar	Third Brother
James	Big Sister
Franklin	Second Brother
Susan	Fifth Younger Sister
Adeline	Little Sister.

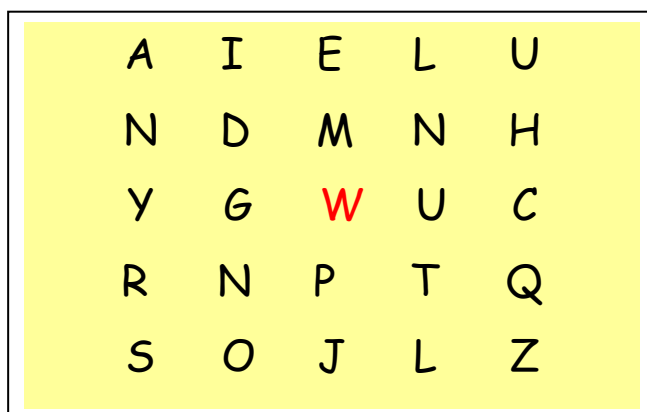
2. Match the names of these characters with their relationship to Adeline.

Baba	Grandmother
Nai Nai	Stepmother
Ye Ye	Father
Dia Dia	Grandfather
Niang	School friend
Wu Chun-mei	Aunt

3. Highlight any of the following names that Adeline is also known by.

Susan	Wu Mei	Wu – Chun – mei
Niang	Adeline Yen Mah	Lydia
Yen Jun – mei	Wu Jie	Ye Ye

4. Find a name: start at the shaded square in the puzzle below and move to any adjacent square to discover the name of Adeline's school friend from Chinese Cinderella. You may read the letters horizontally, vertically or diagonally but must not jump squares.



Autobiography

The word autobiography comes from three Greek words: autos (self), bios (life), and –graphos (something drawn or written).

1. Unscramble the sentence below to give a definition of an autobiography and write it in the space provided.

A person's life is the story of written by that an autobiography about themselves particular person.

An autobiography.....
.....

2. Write a definition of a biography.
3. Explain whether Chinese Cinderella is a biography or an autobiography. Justify your choice.
4. From the boxes below, rate from 1 to 7 (1 being the most important) the reasons you believe people might want to read Adeline yen Mah's story.

Readers would want to find out why Adeline has written her story.

Readers may have been through similar experiences and want to see how someone else has handled them.

Readers would be interested in a study of a family.

Readers would be interested in finding out about an ordinary person's life, achievements and feelings.

Readers are often intrigued by adults describing their childhood.

Readers enjoy hearing about how people have suffered but survived.

Readers are often interested in learning about another culture.