



5th Grade Summer Reading Response Novel Set in China

Student Name: _____

Complete the project below for the novel you chose about China by Grace Lin. **Bring your response with your novel to the first day of school**, so we can discuss together at the beginning of the school year!

Highlight the novel(s) you read from the list below. You are required to read at least one novel:

- *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*
- *Starry River of the Sky*
- *Mulan: Before the Sword*

Part 1: Chinese Civilization Introduction

All civilizations have certain characteristics. These include: (1) large population centers; (2) monumental architecture and unique art styles; (3) shared communication strategies; (4) systems for administering territories; (5) a complex division of labor; and (6) the division of people into social and economic classes. (Adapted from [Key Components of Civilization.](#))

Directions:

- Review the key components of a civilization.
- Think about the novel that you read.
- Ask yourself:
 - Is there a **large population center (cities)** described in the novel?
 - Does the novel describe **unique art and/or architecture**?
 - Are there shared ways to **communicate**?
 - Does the novel describe a **strong political and/or military presence**?
 - Are there **different types of work** described within the novel? (farmers, artists, politicians)
 - Are there **different classes of people based on their wealth** and status described in the novel?

Part 2: Chinese Civilization Organizer

- Find as many examples (**at least 3**) of China's civilization in the novel that you read.
 - Example: **farming/agriculture** could be an example of **division of labor/type of work** (example shown in table below).
- Organize your notes to showcase components of China's civilizations and your chosen examples from the novel. Use the grid organizer provided for you below. You may add boxes if needed!

Key Component of a Civilization	Example from Novel	Page number or chapter where we see this example
Example: Types of Work	Farming/agriculture	Chapter 2 (Where the Mountain Meets the Moon)
Large population centers (cities)		
Types of art, music, dance, architecture		
Ways to communicate		
Strong political and/or military presence		
Types of Work		
Different classes of people based on their wealth		

Part 3: Drawing

Now, choose at least one of the elements of Chinese civilization from your table above and illustrate it in a **detailed and colorful way** in the box below. You may choose to focus on one element from your table above or more than one!