

Reading Comprehension Questions

• *Literal Comprehension Questions*

Answer each of the following questions in one complete sentence:

1. What does Amir say is, "...the object in America..."?

Amir says "The object in America is to avoid contact, to treat all as foes unless they're known to be friends"(Seedfolks pg.73). ✓

2. What conversations does Amir say, "... tied us together"?

The eggplants had given the people an excuse to break the rules and talk to Amir, Amir says that those conversations had tied them together ✓

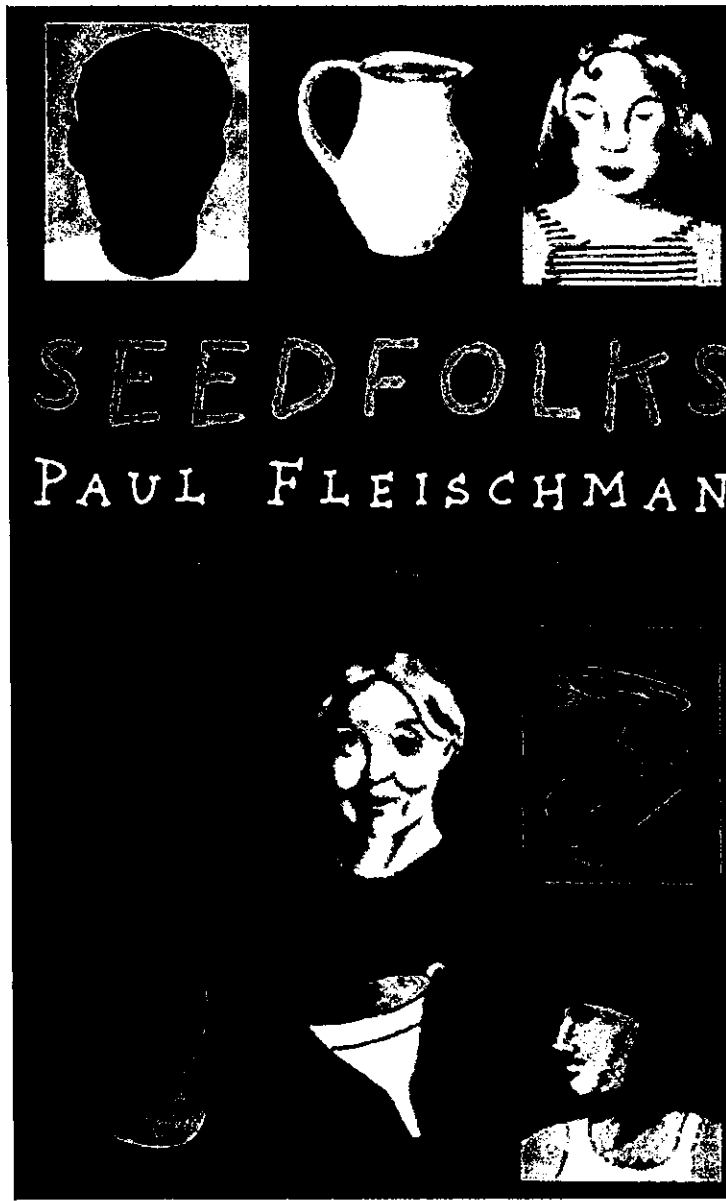
3. Who helped catch the purse thief?

Royce, Amir, and this other guy helped catch the purse thief and hold him down till the police arrived ✓

4. What had Amir heard about Polish men and women?

Amir heard that the polish men were tough steelworkers and that the women cooked lots of cabbage ✓

5. What memory does the thinning of seedlings give the Polish woman?



The thinning of the seedlings reminded her of the concentration camp I was very surprised that she did not thin them – pulling out all but one healthy-looking plant each few inches, to give them room to grow. I asked her. She looked down at them and said she knew she ought to do it, but that this task reminded her too closely of her concentration camp, where the prisoners were inspected each morning and divided into two lines- the healthy to live and the others to die. (Seed folks pg.77) ✓

• **Inference Questions**

6. Choose and circle any two of the following adjectives / character traits that best describe Amir's character:

friendly compassionate honest perceptive wise
observant cautious courageous adaptable

7. After circling your two choices, find a quote from Amir's chapter as evidence to support each of the two chosen character traits. Explain your reasons.

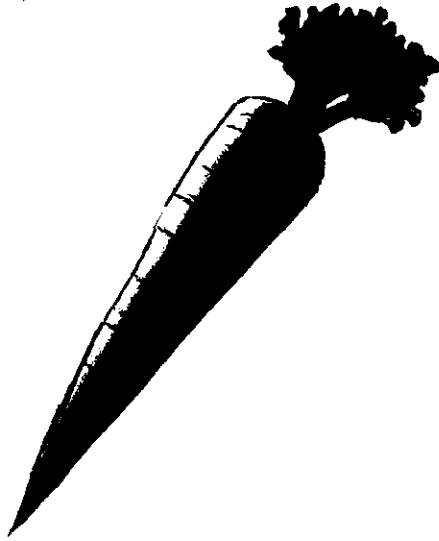
Trait	Evidence	Explanation
<i>i. Observant</i>	<p><i>Quote:</i> In India we have many vast cities, just as in America. There, too, you are one among millions. But there at least you know your neighbors. Here, one cannot say that. The object in America is to avoid contact, to treat all as foes unless they're known to be friends. Here you have a million crabs living in a million crevices (Seedfolks pg. 73)</p>	<p>I think that Amir is very observant because despite america being a large continent, he can still see that america is very different than in India.</p> <p><i>Does he like America at this point?</i></p>
<p><i>ii</i> <i>Courageous</i></p>	<p><i>Quote:</i> A year before she'd claimed that she'd received the wrong change in my store. I was called out to the register. She'd gotten quite angry and called me – despite her own accent- a dirty foreigner. Now that we were so friendly with each other I dared to remind her of this. Her eyes became huge. She apologized to me over and over again. She kept saying, "Back then, I didn't know it was you...." (Seedfolks pg.81)</p>	<p>He had courage to remind the old lady about that incident when they had just become so friendly with each other. ✓</p>

8. How has Amir changed because of the garden? Explain your answer using evidence and quotes from the text. (250 words maximum)

Where are the 6 377?

I think that because of his eggplant garden, people have come over to ask him about it, and they have become more friendly by talking to each other. Very many people came over to ask about them and talk to me. I recognized a few from the neighborhood. Not one had spoken to me before – and now how friendly they turned out to be. The eggplants gave them an excuse for breaking the rules and starting a conversation. How happy they seemed to have found this excuse, to let their natural friendliness out. (Seedfolks pg.75) then he also made friends with other farmers by trading and selling harvests people brought food and

drinks and drums. I went home to get my wife and son. Watermelons from the garden were sliced open. The gardeners proudly showed off what they'd grown. We traded harvests, as we often did. And we gave food away, as we often did also – even I, a businessman, trained to give away nothing, to always make a profit. (Seedfolks pg.80 and he also made friends with a woman he had a quarrel with before because the woman also told him about how to cook the eggplants and about themselves. One old woman, Italian I believe, said she'd admired my eggplants for weeks and told me how happy she was to meet me. She praised them and told me how to cook them and asked all about my family (Seedfolks pg.81)



Ms. Bevear
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Benchmark	Developing Towards Grade Level Expectation	Approaching Grade Level Expectation	Meeting Grade Level Expectation	Exceeding Grade Level Expectation
2.5 Demonstrates comprehension of literary and informational texts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overly short and lacking information Limited inference Insufficient evidence to support responses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates some understanding of aspects of the author's craft Makes some inferences Some supporting detail using information from the text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates understanding of the author's craft: content, point of view, word choice, plot, character development Infers for deeper meaning Effective supporting detail using information from the text 	<p>Comprehension exceeds grade level expectation. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyses texts more deeply or with greater maturity or sophistication