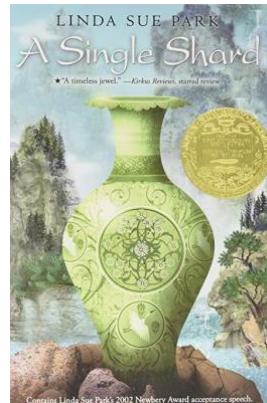


# A Single Shard



|            |                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ISBN-13    | 978-0-547-53426-8                                                                                                                                                          |
| ISBN-10    | 0-547-53426-4                                                                                                                                                              |
| Author     | Linda Sue Park                                                                                                                                                             |
| Publisher  | Houghton Mifflin                                                                                                                                                           |
| Copyright  | 2001                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Print Year | 2011                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Lexile     | 920L                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Genre      | Historic fiction                                                                                                                                                           |
| Synopsis   | Tree-ear is a thirteen-year-old homeless orphan who wants to learn the art of creating Goryeo Celadon. He works hard and endures difficulties to make his dream come true. |
| Themes     | Resilience, Asia-Pacific Region, Middle Ages                                                                                                                               |

## Character-Based Literacy Program Independent Study, A Single Shard, Week 1



### PREPARE

**Background** Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



**Kindness Requires Empathy.** Kindness is the desire to lift others' spirits, help the ones in need, and mend relationships. Kindness requires that I take the time to listen, understand, and take action to benefit other people and the world.

### What is Goryeo Celadon?

Celadon is the main type of ceramics created during the Goryeo dynasty (918–1392) in Korea. The gray-green hue that is characteristic of Celadon originates from the presence of iron in the clay. Some potters produced plain celadon, whereas others decorated it with colorful images. The Celadon's color and the glaze was made possible by the technological advancement of the kiln. In the 12th Century, major celadon industries existed near the southwestern coast of the Korean peninsula, especially in the Buan and Gangjin regions especially.

### What Characterizes the Celadon Kiln Sites?

Although the government controlled the location and set up of the brick-made kilns – primarily to ensure shipment of the products of the celadon industry – local artists had to find raw materials on their own. Artists and assistants were responsible for maintaining the kilns and filling them with firewood.

### Where is Clay Found?

Clay soil can be naturally found next to creeks, river banks, lakes, ponds, and other bodies of water in several countries across the world. During the summer, when a creek dries up, people can find clay deposits. People who are not familiar with natural clay, will need to test whether the soil is sand, mud, or clay.

### What is Celadon color?

Celadon is a shade of green, which some may compare to the color of the sea waves, while others may think about shades of light green and mint with gray undertones. The color has been integrated into the work of interior designers to create a calm and soothing atmosphere.

### Who Were the Buddhist Monks in Medieval Korea?

During the Korean Middle Ages, Buddhism was Korea's state religion. Monks were trained scholars. During the Goryeo dynasty, youth who aspired to become monks had to take entrance examinations which were based on sacred texts. As part of their work

in temples and monasteries, monks pursued knowledge and maintained archives of books and texts.

**Word Wall** Here are 25 vocabulary words to define and add to the Word Wall.

|                     |                     |                   |                      |                  |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| hoisted<br>(4)      | urchin<br>(4)       | dignity<br>(6)    | scholars<br>(7)      | arid<br>(9)      |
| emboldened<br>(14)  | derision<br>(18)    | kiln<br>(19)      | precariously<br>(20) | disarray<br>(21) |
| diligent<br>(27)    | rifle<br>(28)       | insolence<br>(30) | parched<br>(30)      | trundled<br>(31) |
| unobtrusive<br>(41) | felicitous<br>(41)  | tedious<br>(41)   | sieve<br>(42)        | aptness<br>(45)  |
| vigilance<br>(50)   | translucent<br>(51) | glean<br>(53)     | arduous<br>(53)      | ruefully<br>(54) |

**Review** Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Start at the beginning and review the story so far

- Mention the setting and main character
- Point to each timeline item as you quickly review it

**Read** Read the selection.

Read pages 3–59 in the book, *A Single Shard*.

## RESPOND

**Timeline** List the 15-20 most important events on the timeline.

Over the course of the next week, you will be required to read the first five chapters in the book, *A Single Shard*. For each chapter, list three key events in the timeline template, below. Add pages as needed.

### Creating a Timeline

- Get the facts: Who, what, when, where, why.
- Decide on the most important events.
- Write one sentence per event.

### A Single Shard: Chapters 1–5 Timeline

[illegible]

**Map** Add to ongoing class activities like a KWL chart or map: Mark key places in the barrio.

Find a map of Asia. Find South Korea and North Korea. Divide a sheet of paper into three vertical parts. In the middle, sketch a map that shows North Korea, South Korea, China, and Japan. Write the names of the seas near South Korea and North Korea. Leave the other parts of the page blank. You will add notes in those sections as you continue reading the book.

Divide the sides of the page into ten parts each, like this:



In each box, you will add a note about the setting.

**Box 1:** Conduct research on the climate in South Korea. Add information about the climate in the first box (top left).

**Box 2:** Conduct research on wildlife in South Korea. Add information about the wildlife in the second box.

**Box 3:** Conduct research on agriculture and cuisine in South Korea. Add information about Korean food in the third box.

**Box 4:** Conduct research on the history of Korean pottery. Add information about Korean pottery in the fourth box.

## EXPLORE

**Activity** Explore the reading more deeply with a visual or oral language activity.

At the end of this unit, you will complete a two-dimensional example of a celadon. Review photos of Goryeo Celadon on the website of the [Metropolitan Museum of Art](#), the [National Museum of Korea](#), or other reliable sources.

**Step 1:** Create the background for your picture. For example, you may draw or glue images depicting a Southwestern Korean landscape, the inside of a house, or create an abstract art background.

**Step 2:** Begin to create your celadon vase. In ancient times, the potter would throw the clay on a wheel. Once the potter was satisfied with the shape, he let the pot to dry somewhat, but not completely. Using either metal or bamboo stylus, the artist would cut shapes into the surface of the pot, leaving depressions.

You may color, paint or glue pieces of paper from old magazines to create your vase. Determine the shape of the vase and use markers to add designs on the surface of the pot.

**Step 3:** Continue to create your celadon vase. In ancient times, the potter would attach colored clays to the depressions in the vase. You may color, paint or glue pieces of paper from old magazines to add the additional parts of the pot.

**Step 4:** Refine the symmetry of your vase and smooth its surface. In ancient times, the potter would re-center the pot on the wheel and smooth it with sand. Add additional layers of paint, color, or glued pieces of paper to refine the shape of your pot and adjust its texture.

**Step 5:** Add details. To add fine details, the potter uses overlay or inlay. You can add pattern overlay effects using additional layers of color or glued pieces of paper.

### **Discussion** Ask discussion questions.

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**Answer the key questions. Use evidence from the text.**

#### **Chapter 1**

1. Why does Tree-ear live under the bridge?
2. Was Tree-ear's decision to wait a little longer before speaking to the farmer ethical?

#### **Chapter 2**

1. What kind of work was Tree-ear hoping to do?
2. Why was collecting wood for the kiln fire such a difficult task?

#### **Chapter 3**

1. Why did Tree-ear want to work for the potter?
2. Why did Min agree to let the boy continue working for him?

#### **Chapter 4**

1. What have you learned in this chapter about Min's wife?
2. What has Tree-ear learned from villagers' gossip about Min?

#### **Chapter 5**

1. Why was Tree-ear worried about the winter season?

2. Did Tree-ear do the right thing when he gave Min's wife's gift – her son's jacket – to Crane-man?

**Analyze** the key paragraph.

---

**P. 6**

"Following Crane-man's advice was not always easy for Tree-ear. Today, for example. Was it stealing, to wait as Tree-ear had for more rice to fall before alerting the man that his rice bag was leaking? Did a good deed balance a bad one? Tree-ear often pondered this kind of questions, alone or in discussion with Crane-man."

**P. 18**

"The potter waved one hand to cut off the boy's words and spoke with derision. "Turn the wheel! Ha! He thinks he can sit and make a pot—just like that!"

**P. 34**

"Tree-ear picked up the chopsticks and stared for a moment. Of one thing he was certain: The feast-day banquets in the palace of the king could never better the modest meal before him, for he had earned it!"

**p. 47**

"That late summer Tree-ear and Crane-man always had enough to eat, for the half-empty dinner bowl never failed to become a brimful supper bowl. Tree-ear had once been tempted to eat all of the food at midday, knowing in his heart that the bowl would be refilled. But the very thought had frightened him. How quickly one became greedy! And he knew without asking that Crane-man would disapprove. Taking advantage of the kindness of another, he might say."

**p. 57**

"Was it wrong to give away a gift that had only just been given him? It was a gift, he argued with himself, which meant that it was now his to do with as he pleased—to wear, or to give away. He thought of Min's wife, and decided it would not displease her if he chose to give the jacket to his friend."

## EXTEND

**Write** a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

---

### Chapter 1

Tree-ear's doubts about the morality of his actions are called "moral uncertainty." Moral uncertainty happens when it is difficult to know what the morally right thing to do is. For example, we do not know whether it is morally better, to be honest, or to be kind. Write 2–3 paragraphs about a situation you have encountered in life, in which you have experience moral uncertainty.

**Chapter 2**

Min did not demand payment for the damaged pot. However, Tree-ear insisted on paying him back with his labor. Once he learned the difficulty of the job, he still insisted on paying back the potter. Write two paragraphs about the core character values that Tree-ear has demonstrated in his insistence to compensate the potter.

**Chapter 3**

Crane-man offered to chop wood for Tree-ear even though clearly this kind of work would risk his only good leg. One two-paragraphs about the friendship between Crane-man and Tree-ear. Link the paragraphs to the unit's theme, Kindness Requires Empathy, and discuss how kindness is at the center of their friendship.

**Chapter 4**

Tree-ear searched for ways to thank Min's wife for her kindness. He did chores around the house to express his gratitude. Write two paragraphs about why it is important to *express* gratitude – not just *feel* gratitude.

**Chapter 5**

Tree-ear decided it was prudent to collect rice from the fields even though he was tired and could only carry out this task early in the morning or in the evening. Write two paragraphs about prudence and being prepared for an unforeseen future. What value did Tree-ear show in his work? Why is it important?

## Character-Based Literacy Program Independent Study, A Single Shard, Week 2



### PREPARE

**Background** Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



**Kindness Requires Empathy.** Kindness is the desire to lift others' spirits, help the ones in need, and mend relationships. Kindness requires that I take the time to listen, understand, and take action to benefit other people and the world.

#### What is the Traditional Korean Calendar?

Tree-ear refers to “next moon” or several “moons.” Why does he mean by “moons?” The Korean traditional calendar follows the phases of the moon to determine months and dates. The lunar calendar was the official calendar in Korea until the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Korean New Year is the first day of the first month of the lunar calendar. It usually falls at the end of January or beginning of February.

#### What is Perfectionism?

Perfectionism is a personality trait that characterizes people who strive for flawless results that meet extremely high standards. Perfectionists evaluate their work overly critically. They might be too rigid in using harsh criticism of their performance by failing to differentiate between situations that call for higher standards and situations that call for lower standards.

#### Where is Songdo?

Songdo's name was inspired by the pine-covered mountains surrounding the city. In the middle ages, Songdo was the capital city of the Goryeo empire and the location of the palaces of the kings. Today, the city is named Kaesong. After the Korean war, the city changed hands from South Korea to North Korea. Located in the southern region of North Korea, it includes a business district that has joint ventures of South Korea and North Korea.

#### What Were the Social Classes in the Goryeo Society?

In the Goryeo empire, people who qualified for an audience with the king – typically owners of large estates, had the upper socio-economic status in society. Below them, were three additional levels of social class in the following order: peasants, artisans, and merchants.

#### What Shapes of Ceramics Did Potters Create in Twelfth-Century Korea?

The most common celadon created by potters were vases, jugs, and bowls. Of the vases, the most popular shape is the *maebyeong* – a tall vase that rise from a narrow base to an elegant and shoulder. Some of these vases featured Chrysanthemum flower (a popular plant of the daisy family) inlay design with the flower petals in red and white colors. Also, potters produced carved animal figures, pitchers in the form of mythical creatures, incense burners, and roof tiles.

**Word Wall** Here are 25 vocabulary words to define and add to the Word Wall.

|                   |                   |                      |                         |                        |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| spurned<br>(60)   | emissary<br>(61)  | impending<br>(65)    | surreptitiously<br>(65) | commiserated<br>(72)   |
| irritable<br>(73) | harangued<br>(73) | deceptive<br>(80)    | fiendishly<br>(82)      | suffused<br>(85)       |
| noxious<br>(88)   | veil<br>(88)      | tumultuous<br>(89)   | faltered<br>(91)        | perils<br>(92)         |
| superb<br>(99)    | endeavor<br>(100) | Scavenging<br>(101)  | cargo<br>(104)          | progressively<br>(106) |
| eaves<br>(108)    | luscious<br>(109) | trepidation<br>(109) | Steadier<br>(118)       | Impeccable<br>(119)    |

**Review** Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Start at the beginning and review the story so far

- Mention the setting and main character
- Point to each timeline item as you quickly review it

**Read** Read the selection.

Read pages 60–119 in the book, *A Single Shard*.

## RESPOND

**Timeline** List the most important events on the timeline.

Over the course of the next week, you will read chapters 6–10 in the book, *A Single Shard*. For each chapter, list three key events in the timeline template, below. Add pages as needed.

### Creating a Timeline

- Get the facts: Who, what, when, where, why.
- Decide on the most important events.
- Write one sentence per event.



**Map** Add to ongoing class activities like a KWL chart or map: Mark key places in the barrio.

---

Continue with your map from Week 1.

**Box 5:** Conduct research on Korean architecture. Add information about one or more architecture practices, such as Hanok architecture style, in the fifth box.

**Box 6:** Conduct research on Korean culture. Add information about one or more traditions related to family, women, or village life.

**Box 7:** Conduct research on words in Korean. In Box 7, write at least three words and their meaning.

**Box 8:** Watch the video, [Geography Now! SOUTH KOREA](#). In Box 8, write at least two facts about South Korea's physical geography.

**Box 9:** Research information about the "Three Kingdoms Period" – a time that preceded the Goryeo Empire. During that time, Korea was divided into three different kingdoms, Silla, Goguryeo, and Baekje. In Box 9, write at least two facts about the three kingdoms or their unification.

## EXPLORE

**Activity** Explore the reading more deeply with a visual or oral language activity.

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Continue working on your celadon vase.

**Step 6:** Respond to the recent fashion in Korea by adding red and white Chrysanthemum flowers to your design.

**Step 7:** Add the glaze. At this stage, the potter would fire the pot in the Kiln, add a glaze, and then re-fire the pot in higher temperature.

Use a small amount of non-toxic paint, such as watercolors or acrylic paint to add the final touch to your celadon vase.

**Step 8:** Consider how to best market and sell your artwork. You may add flowers or a flowering tree branch or write a message about the celadon vase.

**Step 9:** Frame your picture. Consider a frame that represents both tradition and innovation – just as Min strives to demonstrate a technique that is both traditional and fashionable.

**Day 10:** Share your celadon vase with others. It may become part of a gallery, or you may take a photo of your vase and send it to friends. Include one paragraph description of the vase. The paragraph may describe the purpose of the vase, the inspiration that influenced its design, or the innovative technique used to create it.

**Optional:** Write the text from a perspective of a merchant in twelfth-century Korea – mentioning the King's preference for this kind of design.

**Discussion** Ask discussion questions.

**Answer the key questions. Use evidence from the text.**

**Chapter 6**

1. What are the differences between Min's pottery and Kang's pottery?
2. How did the potters in the village behave after the visit of the emissary?

**Chapter 7**

1. What new skill has Tree-ear acquired as part of his work for Min?
2. Why did Min destroy the vases?

**Chapter 8**

1. How does Tree-ear feel about the journey to Songdo?
2. How did Tree-ear feel when Min's wife told him to call her Ajima?
3. What advice did Crane-man give Tree-ear?

**Chapter 9**

1. How will Tree-ear carry the vases and protect them from breaking?
2. How did Tree-ear make Crane-man laugh?
3. Why did Tree-ear make a toy monkey for his friend?

**Chapter 10**

1. What enables Tree-ear to travel safely?
2. Why was Tree-ear afraid of the fox?
3. What did Tree-ear see in Puyo that encouraged him to speed up his journey to Songdo?

**Analyze** the key paragraph.**P. 64**

"If a man is keeping an idea to himself, and that idea is taken by stealth or trickery—I say it is stealing. But once a man has revealed his idea to others, it is no longer his alone. It belongs to the world."

**P. 77**

"Tree-ear exulted silently over his master's work. He could hardly wait to see the pieces after they were fired. Surely, the emissary would see that min's work could both honor tradition and welcome the new in a way that was worthy of commission."

**P. 93**

"Your mind knows that you are going to Songdo. But you must not tell your body. It must think one hill, one valley, one day at a time. In that way, your spirit will not grow weary before you have even begun to walk."

**P. 107**

"I would tell you this. Of all the problems you may meet on your journey, it will be people who are the greatest danger. But it will also be people to whom you must turn if ever you are in need of aid."

**p. 117**

"The villages along Tree-ear's route thus far were much like Ch'ulp'o. They were not seaside villages, and they were inhabited by farmers rather than potters, but they had the same feel as Ch'ulp'o: small thatched houses gathered in clusters along a single main road, the grand home of a government official set apart from the rest, a temple somewhere nearby, people working hard for a meager living. Everyone had been kind and respectful, going about their business as he went about his."

**EXTEND**

**Write** a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

---

**Chapter 6**

Tree-ear wanted to tell Min about Kang's new work. However, he followed his friend's ethical advice. Did he do the right thing? Define and write one or two paragraphs about industrial espionage and why it is unethical.

**Chapter 7**

Tree-ear wanted Min to succeed and get a commission. Why was this opportunity important to him? Write 1–2 paragraphs about Tree-ear's ambition as well as the relationship he has developed with the potter and his wife.

**Chapter 8**

Tree-ear wants to re-pay Min's wife for her kindness by taking on a dangerous journey that may make her husband successful. However, he will be leaving Crane-man behind. Is he making the right choice? Write 1–2 paragraphs about the pros and cons of Tree-ear's decision.

**Chapter 9**

Tree-ear found a way of creating with clay that did not involve using the wheel. How did this discovery give him a sense of joy and freedom? Write 1–2 paragraphs about the importance of creating art for Tree-ear.

**Chapter 10**

Tree-ear would not survive his long journey if it weren't for the kindness and hospitality of villagers. Write two paragraphs about the value of a culture of kindness in society. How can such a cultural norm promote safety and prosperity?

## Character-Based Literacy Program Independent Study, A Single Shard, Week 3



### PREPARE

**Background** Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



**Kindness Requires Empathy.** Kindness is the desire to lift others' spirits, help the ones in need, and mend relationships. Kindness requires that I take the time to listen, understand, and take action to benefit other people and the world.

### What is a Hero's Journey?

A hero's journey is a common theme in myths and legends around the world and throughout human history. The hero is often an unassuming character who makes the choice to embark on a difficult journey to an unfamiliar place. The courage to take on the journey to the unknown represents the ability of the hero to take control over one's life rather than be a victim who succumbs to life's many challenges. During the journey, the hero faces tests of strength and character. Also, the hero receives kind help from other characters and/or supernatural powers. The hero may have a mentor who provides advice and guidance. At the end of the journey, the hero is more self-aware of one's inner strength and resilience.

### What is the Difference between Medieval and Modern Celadons?

At the time of the Goryeo empire, it was impossible to keep celadons clean within the kilns. Some potters tried to keep the celadon vase off the floor of the kiln, by placing it on pebbles or shells. However, these pieces would leave marks on the pot. Also, because of the crude tools, celadon pots tended to have a less vibrant and uniform glaze color; they were less symmetrical in their shapes; and, potters used less detail in the inlay designs. Differences in quality of celadon vases varied significantly depending on the level of expertise of the craftsman. Most potters did not leave their mark on the vases. Their work was recognized by the reputation of the artist. Today, potters use sterile kilns to make celadons, and they glaze the bottom of the celadons. They leave their unique mark or signature on the pot.

### What is the Thousand Cranes Vase?

The "Thousand Crane Vase" is believed to be made during the late 12<sup>th</sup> century or early 13<sup>th</sup> century. Its height is 16.24 inches, and it was preserved as part of the art collection of Chun Hyung-pi. A photo of the vase is available on p. 178 of a report called, [The Korean Government Exhibition](#), by Alan Priest. See a photo also on the [Celadon Facts](#) webpage. It is recognized as a Korean national treasure and is on display at the Kangsong Art Museum in Seoul.

**Word Wall** Here are 15 vocabulary words to define and add to the Word Wall.

|                  |                    |                    |                       |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| incline<br>(120) | leer<br>(122)      | descent<br>(127)   | heedless<br>(127)     | shard<br>(129)     |
| blur<br>(131)    | dignified<br>(133) | quell<br>(134)     | incredulous<br>(136)  | chastened<br>(136) |
| subdued<br>(142) | jostled<br>(142)   | inscribed<br>(144) | recollection<br>(145) | dignified<br>(148) |

**Review** Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Start at the beginning and review the story so far

- Mention the setting and main character
- Point to each timeline item as you quickly review it

**Read** Read the selection.

Read pages 120–148 in the book, *A Single Shard*.

## RESPOND

**Timeline** List the most important events on the timeline.

Over the course of the next week, you will read chapters 11–13 in the book, *A Single Shard*. For each chapter, list three key events in the timeline template, below. Add pages as needed.

### Creating a Timeline

- Get the facts: Who, what, when, where, why.
- Decide on the most important events.
- Write one sentence per event.

### A Single Shard: Chapters 11–13 Timeline

[illegible]

**Map** Add to ongoing class activities like a KWL chart or map: Mark key places in the barrio.

Continue with your map from Week 2.

**Box 10:** Tree-ear is currently at the Nakhwaam Rock (The Rock of the Falling Flowers) located in Buyeo County in South Chungcheong Province, South Korea. He needs to arrive at Songdo (Modern times Kaesong in North Korea). In Box 10, estimate the distance in miles that Tree-ear should travel.

**Attach a page to your map and complete the following activities**

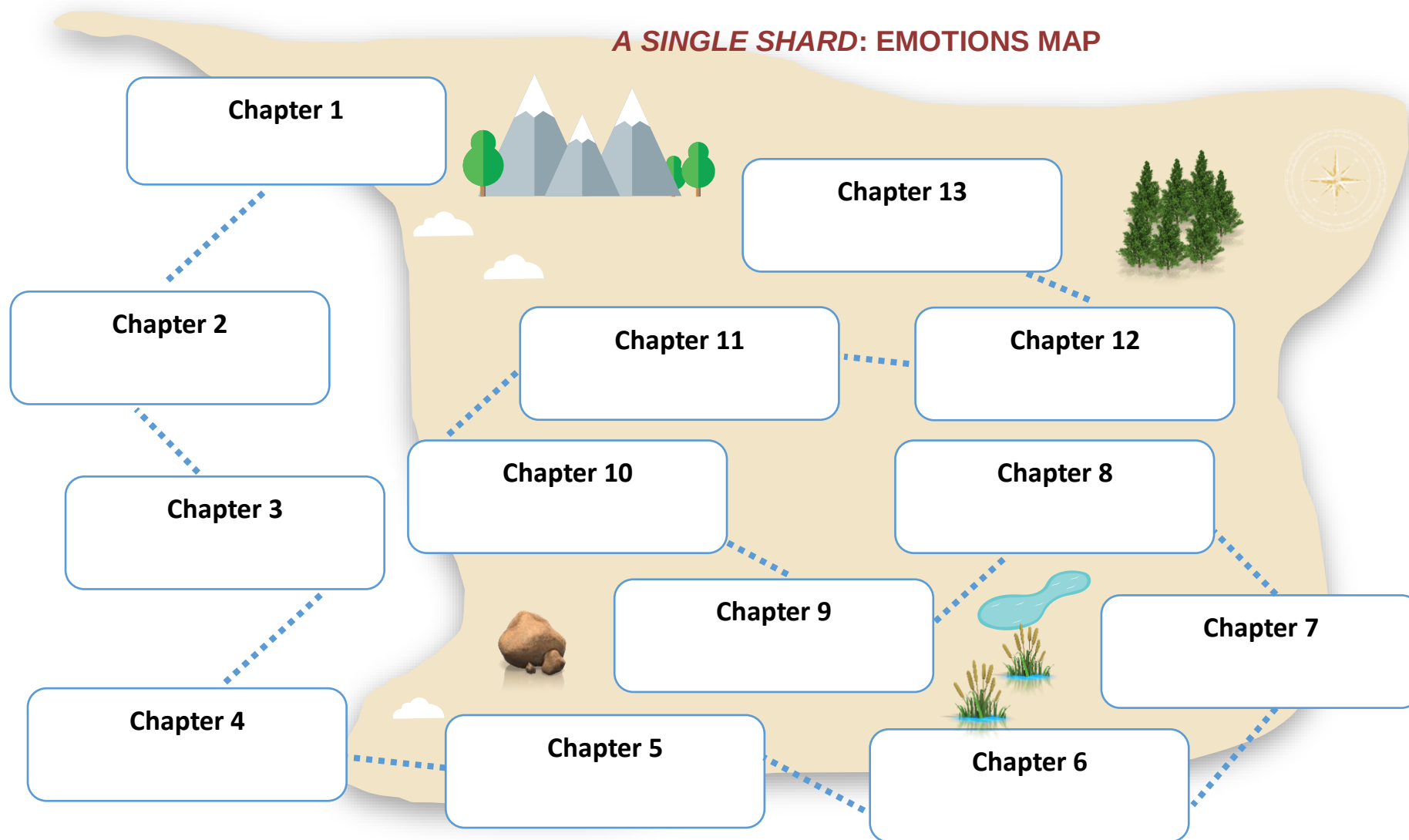
1. Some of the sites the Tree-ear may have seen are recognized today as world heritage sites. Review the information about [Historic Monuments and Sites in Kaesong](https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1278/) (formerly, Songdo) at <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1278/>

Note the importance of The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) work to identify and protect cultural and natural heritage around the world. Reflect, how do books such as *A Single Shard* contribute to people's awareness of the value of world heritage sites?

2. To end this unit, you will create a map not of places but of emotions. Use the emotional states in the box to select the words that express the experiences of Tree-ear. Write the emotion words under the respective chapter names in the worksheet.

|            |             |            |            |            |          |
|------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|
| amazed     | angry       | afraid     | anxious    | ashamed    | baffled  |
| betrayed   | confused    | curious    | depressed  | determined |          |
| devastated | discouraged | dismayed   | eager      |            |          |
| ecstatic   | elated      | encouraged | fascinated | foolish    |          |
| fortunate  | free        | frustrated | furious    | giddy      | grateful |
| grieving   | guilty      | happy      | hollow     | hopeful    |          |
| inadequate | insecure    | lonely     | lost       | loving     |          |
| optimistic | relaxed     | nervous    | numb       | proud      | sad      |
| safe       | scared      | shocked    | tormented  | uncertain  | upset    |

## A SINGLE SHARD: EMOTIONS MAP



## EXPLORE

**Activity** Explore the reading more deeply with a visual or oral language activity.

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Continue working on your celadon vase.

**Step 11:** Create a pamphlet or a brochure that can be used to market and sell future pictures of celadon vases.

**Optional:** Write the text from a perspective of a merchant in twelfth-century Korea seeking a commission from the royal court.

**Step 12:** Write a review of another person's artwork. It can be a student from your class or an online image of a celadon vase. Comment on the symmetry, color, and details of the art.

**Step 13:** Draw a picture of the vase that Tree-ear later prepared for the royal court. It may be the Thousand Cranes Vase, or another vase that was part of his collection.

**Discussion** Ask discussion questions.

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**Answer the key questions. Use evidence from the text.**

### Chapter 11

1. What did the bandits want?
2. What thoughts or attitudes made Tree-ear decide to continue with his journey?

### Chapter 12

1. What aspects of Tree-ear's verbal and non-verbal communication enabled him to get what he wanted – an appointment with Emissary Kim?
2. Why did Emissary Kim award Min a commission?

### Chapter 13

1. Describe Min's reaction to the news that Tree-ear brought with him. Why did he respond this way?
2. In your opinion, how will Tree-Ear's life be like in future years?

**Analyze** the key paragraph.

---

### P. 129

"Suddenly, Tree-ear raised his head. He stood up and squared his shoulders, still clutching the piece of pottery. He laid the shard carefully on a flat stone. He took the clay turtle from his waist pouch and squeezed it back into a ball. Next, he rolled the clay between his palms until it formed a long snake. Picking up the shard again, he pinched the snake all the way around the sharp edge to protect it."

**P. 139**

“Concentrating on the answer to the emissary’s question helped steady Tree-ear. “I think ten. Not fewer, but not many more...” He looked up and spoke with quiet pride. “My master works slowly.”

**P. 148**

“How long would it be before he had skill enough to create a design worthy of such a vase? *One hill, one valley*

...One day at a time, he would journey through the years until he came upon the perfect design.”

**EXTEND**

**Write** a short product based on today’s prompt to connect to the unit theme.

---

**Chapter 11**

Tree-ear was ashamed of his failure. Was the robbery his fault? Write one or two paragraphs arguing whether or not losing the vases was Tree-ear’s fault and whether his decision to go on with his journey was the right decision.

**Chapter 12**

In modern times, speed is highly admired. Manufacturers that cannot meet tight deadlines lose their commission. Did Emissary Kim do the right thing assigning a commission without demanding a delivery schedule? What did the emissary enable by his commission? Write one or two paragraphs about the nature of royal commissions and how it affected quality of art and craftsmanship.

**Chapter 13**

The kindness of other people helped Tree-ear find strength in himself and show his courage, resilience, social responsibility, and work-ethics. Write a concluding paragraph that discusses how being kind to others enables them to be at their best.

## Character-Based Literacy Program *A Single Shard*, Final Writing Assignment



### Write an Argumentative Essay

Your final writing product will argue that kindness is the foundation for a good life and a flourishing society.

The essay will discuss the characteristics of the kindness as a virtue – how it is displayed and under what circumstances it can change people's life.

Begin your essay with a well-defined thesis statement or the key idea you will discuss and support with examples. Use the paragraphs you have written about the book, *A Single Shard*, to provide examples and supportive arguments. The essay should be concise – avoid repetition and redundancy in statements.

Use the following checklist to evaluate your work:

- The essay begins with a clear argument.
- The essay provides examples to clarify the reasoning.
- The essay includes good transition words and phrases (see below).
- The essay thoughtfully presents counterarguments, such as challenges to implementing the idea.
- There is a topic in each paragraph.
- There is a logical progression from one paragraph to the next.
- The essay ends with a strong conclusion.

Create a timeline to organize your writing schedule:

| What                                 | When |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| Create a thesis statement            |      |
| Create an outline                    |      |
| Collect and organize ideas and facts |      |
| Write an introduction paragraph      |      |
| Write the body paragraphs            |      |
| Write a conclusion paragraph         |      |
| Evaluate and edit                    |      |
| Submit a rough draft                 |      |
| Revise based on feedback             |      |
| Submit a final draft                 |      |