

58 Write your response to Number 58 on the lines below. Only what you write on  
BCR these lines will be scored.

Q1-2

The story begins with Jaeng failing her test, showing that she was not comfortable with her unfamiliar surroundings. Jaeng did not recognize the similarities in the home she had before and her home now, which is why in the last paragraph, the author reassures comfort. By the snow melting, the geese returning, and the hibiscus budding, it will make Jaeng feel more at ease because it is like her old home, which will make it much easier to pass the test. By describing the similarities in the last paragraph, it shows how Jaeng will be more comfortable in her new home as she was before.

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Q1-4

She ~~was~~ concluded the story with  
that line because she is saying if she  
fails the test again something will be  
there to cheer her up. If ~~she~~ she took  
the test and failed it the next week  
nothing would cheer her up.

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The author, Min fong Ho, ended the story, "Winter Hibiscus with Saeng vowing to retake her drivers test when the geese return and the hibiscus is budding to show a fresh new start. In the beginning of the story, as Saeng has failed her driver's test, she lost hope and disappointed. But when she went into the flower shop and spotted different flowers, it brought back old memories of her home in Vietnam and "drew her back into her childhood." (paragraph 6) Although both she and her mother knew that it's "not like the kind [they] had before", her mother told her that "it's strong enough to make it through the cold months," and "that's what matters." Although her mother was at first disappointed of how much she had spent on the flower, she empathized her daughter, knowing that the flower will consolidate her disappointment of failing her driver's test. The author ended the story by writing, "When they were back, Saeng vowed silently to herself, in the spring, when the snows melt and geese return and this hibiscus is budding, then I will take that test again" in order to show that as the geese return and the flower blooms, it symbolizes Saeng's determination to overcome her failure and start anew. As the hibiscus is just strong enough to make it through the cold months and bloom in the spring, Saeng will also make it through the cold months preparing for the spring, and "that's what matters."

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The author ends the passage to this story that way because it is a good ending. That last paragraph is what brings the whole passage together.

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The line that Saeng ended with were very heartfelt words. She had just failed the driving test; therefore she was probably feeling down. After she bought the Hibiscus she gained a new sense of well being. All of the little things adding up deeply and painstakingly reminded her of home, in Vietnam. She is basically telling herself that after the Hibiscus begins to bud again, she will convince herself that she can take the test and pass. The line is said with determination. Which shows that she will study and be ready for the test.

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He chose that paragraph because it shows that the character never quits. And that's because she failed the test the first time.

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Q1-14

The author chooses this last paragraph to leave you wondering what happens when she takes the next test. The author wants to make you think. The author wanted to make the ending very dramatic.

Write your response to Number 58 on the lines below. Only what you write on these lines will be scored.

Q1-16

The author ended the story with this passage so that the negative mood in the story ends, becoming more positive. The mood in the story was constantly depressing and emotional. The author ended the story, allowing the reader to see Saeng's hopeful attitude before the story ended. This sentence brought author MinFang Ho's purpose together. The purpose being, that, through change and sadness, can come happiness, by having faith in yourself. The "winter hibiscus" was the maturation for Saeng's faith through a rough time. The reason for her to take the test when "the geese's return" was because she states earlier that when "a flock of Canada geese flew by, [Saeng] was familiar to Saeng." Saeng has now battled the struggle of living in a new country, where she has now gotten used to Canada geese. So, now when the geese return, she will battle the struggle of passing her test.



60 Write your response to Number 60 on the lines below. Only what you write on  
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Q1-18

The author concludes the story with this paragraph because it is explaining how her ability to overcome obstacles will be renewed once she knows that the hibiscus among other things were able to survive in tough times. Her mother tells Saeng that "I've seen this kind blooming along the lake. Its flower's aren't as pretty, but it's strong enough to make it through cold months here, this winter hibiscus. That's what matters." Her mother is explaining that although life gives everyone it's tough time if one is strong, one can overcome anything. The story also concludes with this statement because once she planted the hibiscus, and it was in the ground, like Saeng had started over in the U.S. it could prosper just like she would over time.

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Q1-20

In the story "Winter Hibiscus" by Minfeng He, the author concludes the story with this paragraph in order to show the new determination to face obstacles through the inspiration of the winter hibiscus. When she goes to the florist, because she sees a familiar flower, she is nostalgic: "A wave of loss so deep and strong that it stung Saeng's eyes now swept over her. A blink, a channel switch, a boat ride into the night, and it was all gone." This depression causes Saeng to break down. Upon seeing the hibiscus, Saeng had thought, "How strange to see it in a pot. Back home it just grew wild, jutting out from the cracks in brick walls or between tiled roofs." This symbolizes how she felt now, so discouraged and pessimistic compared to when she was back in Vietnam, free to fly like a wild bird. Along with this, when Saeng brings the flower home and both mother and daughter decide to plant it, Saeng's mother says, "It's flowers aren't as pretty [as the ones back home], but it's strong enough to make it through the cold months here." The hibiscus is metaphorically Saeng, who can't show her brightest colors and wits in America, yet is strong enough to hold out through the winter in order to "bud" again as a flower and achieve her goals. Saeng takes this winter hibiscus as a role model and decides she will do the same thing as the flower.

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Write your response to Number 58 on the lines below. Only what you write on these lines will be scored.

Q2-2

Saeng is vowing to take the test again and pass when springs comes, when the snow has melted, when the geese return, and the hibiscus buds. She failed before but will pass the next time she takes the test.

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The author concludes the story with this paragraph to show Saeng's resilience in life. After moving to America, she realizes that everything from her homeland was "irrevocably, irrevocably gone" from her life (paragraph 12). However, in the florist shop she takes note of how something as small and simple as a hibiscus flower can bring back the pleasing memories of her childhood in Vietnam. She values these memories even over the material traditions of her past.

Although Saeng often feels "a wave of loss so deep and strong that it stung Saeng's eyes," she learns to live with her new lifestyle in America (paragraph 12). By the end of the story, Saeng claims that the "Canada geese [are] familiar... now" that she has adapted to the "quiet repetition of season upon season" (second-to-last paragraph).

So, taking into account the last paragraph, the reader can infer that Saeng's newfound hibiscus flower allows her to find solace because it brings her back to her homeland. Therefore, now comforted by something found in Vietnam, she can go on to adapt to her new life in America, a process that will get easier with time.

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Write your response to Number 58 on the lines below. Only what you write on these lines will be scored.

Q2-6

The author concludes the story with this paragraph for a couple of reasons. One reason is that you should always try again. She is confident that after the snow melts, the goose returns and the hibiscus is budding, that she will take the test again and pass it.

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Q2-8

I think the author concluded the story the way she did because the theme of the story was about dealing with and overcoming obstacles. Like the flower the girl was foreign to the country but over time without realizing it she became accustomed to things. The flower was a symbol of her past, the geese were a symbol of the present, and her driving test was an obstacle of her future. All three things tied into one in the girl herself. Also, both the flower and the geese, like the girl, had to adapt and overcome many obstacles. The flower had to adjust to climate, and location, it had to overcome its surroundings to survive. The geese had to adjust to life style and climate traveling with the seasons. Like the girl, she had to adjust to change and adapt to new things. I think the flower and the geese are reminders or emblems to her, telling her that nothing is ever easy, but it can be done. Maybe that's why she says that "in the spring, when the snows melt, and the geese return and this hibiscus is budding, then I will take that test again." Maybe to the girl, spring, the bringer of life, is a fresh start, and all the things mentioned, the geese returning, the snow melting, the flower budding, are all signs of spring, a new beginning.

The author concludes the story with this paragraph to provide a sense of hope and to show that Saeng has adapted to her new circumstances. The story had been bittersweet up to that point, but this concluding paragraph gave the story a more positive outlook. In the story, Saeng had failed her driving test, but found a beautiful flower that reminded her of home--and Saeng spent nineteen dollars for such a reminder. The concluding paragraph provides a sense that everything will be alright. Saeng, who had earlier been upset about failing her test and not being completely adapted to an "American lifestyle" finally concludes that she can tie her home culture in with her life--and that she can have a second chance with her driving test. This concluding paragraph also mentions spring, which is traditionally symbolic of hopefulness and new life. This ending lets the reader feel hope for Saeng, and lets Saeng know that everything will be alright.

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Q2-1/2

It means that whenever all  
the snow is gone and  
all of the other flowers  
are budding, then maybe  
Sara would not feel  
so out of place. She  
didn't like when the  
winter time came around  
because all of the flowers  
were dead.



58  
BCR

Write your response to Number 58 on the lines below. Only what you write on these lines will be scored.

Q2-14

9 The author concludes the story with this Paragraph  
Because it is ~~qporreat~~ and if the author put the  
Paragraph in between another Paragraph it won't make  
any sense and it will screw the whole story up.

60 Write your response to Number 60 on the lines below. Only what you write on  
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Q2-16

The Author in "Winter Hibiscus" ends the story with a very inspirational paragraph. "when the snows melt... I will take that test again." This is very inspiring because Saeng was very discouraged about her new surroundings. Saeng had trouble adjusting, she felt more discouraged when she failed her driving test. It wasn't until she saw an Hibiscus plant that was familiar to her. I think the Author concluded with this paragraph to show how Saeng was adjusting. The flower and the girl all adjust so why can't she? So Saeng is going to be like the flower and adjust and take her driving test.

Write your response to Number 60 on the lines below. Only what you write on these lines will be scored.

I believe the author of the story Winter Hibiscus uses the last sentence she did to show that spring is a time of new life and new beginning and that Saeng would take the test over again to start her new beginning. The main plot of the story was that Saeng had failed a test and to cope with her sympathy she bought a new, expensive plant. When her mother found out all of this she got angry but soon saw Saeng's sadness and became understanding. Saeng loved flowers and nature so she decided that when the geese return in the spring and when the new life of the flowers and nature starts, she would retake her test as a new beginning of her life.

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Q2-20

In the short story "Winter Hibiscus" by Minfeng Ho a closing paragraph is specially placed for purpose and to convey certain feelings. The main ~~one~~ of those feelings that the author is trying to convey is a tired doggedness. This is shown in her last paragraph by the phrase, "... then I will take that test again." These words show a side of Saeng that the readers could not see until this sentence was read.

This is all because this small paragraph conveys many things. First of all, it conveys a feeling of hope about life that the character is beginning to feel. Next, it shows that Saeng is beginning to accept her life in America and live with it, even if it is not like her homeland. Third, it conveys the feeling that Saeng is willing to work for what she needs, and will persevere through all of the hardships that may be put in front of her.

The final, quick paragraph is also installed into the story to lighten the mood. As it is, "Winter Hibiscus" is a very sad story almost to the point of being depressing. The last paragraph however, shows that things with Saeng are on the change for the better, and soon enough things will be turning around and life will be improving. This last paragraph really helps to turn around the tearful character of the story. This is why the final paragraph of "Winter Hibiscus" was added by Ho, as a mood-lightener to help people have a better outlook after reading the story.

58  
BCR

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Q3-1

The author concludes this story with this paragraph because the last paragraph expresses what the author is talking about. Throughout the story there really wasn't no point, but it was explaining everything.

Q3-3

The reason I think the author concludes the story with that paragraph. Because he may be saying to the reader is that if you fail try again. Cause people who give up do not never win. and people try end up win

[illegible]

I think the author concludes the story with this paragraph because he wanted to get the point across that adjusting to changes in life takes more than one try. In the beginning Saeng failed her driving test and was deeply saddened after remembering the hibiscus and other things from her home land. Having come from across the globe it is hard for a teenage girls to adapt to a new environment especially leaving a place where you felt that you belong. In relation the last paragraph talks about change such as "when the snow melt and the geese return and [the] hibiscus is budding." All these changes occur from season to season to adapt to the weather much like Saeng who had to adapt to the U.S. Furthermore, she still misses her country but she is trying, and every day she feels like she is more and more at home. By taking the driving test again she is showing effort in her compliance to adapt or adjust to changes in life as did the hibiscus flower.

58  
BCR

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Q3 -7

The author concludes the story with Saeng's decision to take the driving test again in the spring, to show Saeng's triumph over her sadness and failure. Saeng seem to become confident that everything will turn out well, because of her mother's understanding and kindness, "It's a beautiful plant, this dok faeng-nai, I'm glad you bought it." Even though her mother knows her daughter spent too much money for the plant, she supports her in her time of need. Saeng seems to put her depression behind her and look brightly towards the spring. The author concludes the story with this to capture a happy hopeful ending.



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BCR

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Q3-9

I think that the author chooses to end the story like this because it shows that Saeng doesn't give up when times are hard. She will wait till next season and mature some, help her plant grow and then retake the test next year.

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Q3-11

The Author concluded the story  
that way because she failed and she can  
start over again and take the test next  
year when the spring is taking place, when the  
snows melt and the geese return and  
the hibernation is budding, then I will take that  
test again.

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In the story "Winter Hibiscus" by Mingfeng Ho, the story is concluded with Saeng making a vow that when the geese return, she will take her driver's test again. The author chooses to end the story this way because it is a sign that Saeng is adapting to her new surroundings. At the beginning of the story, Saeng misses her homeland so much that she "broke down and wept" in the greenhouse. The memories of home were too dear to her. She ends up purchasing a plant that reminds her of the home she loved. When she and her mother are talking about the plant, she could not bring herself to say that it was not like the ones they had "at home," because she feared she would cry again. She says it is "not like the kind [they] had before." Her mother sympathizes with her, and then goes to make dinner while Saeng plants the hibiscus. When a flock of geese fly overhead, she realizes that they are no longer a new, strange thing, but that they are familiar to her. She makes the vow to take the test again because she realizes that she needs to be comfortable in her new home.

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As stated in the multiple choice questions, the theme of this story is adjusting to the changes in life. The drivers test is a blatant symbol for the new American life Saeng has to endure. By including her thought of going back to the test, Saeng thus overcomes her stubbornness to let go of the past and ultimately accepts whatever changes that she must endure.

In the text, when Saeng announces to her mother that Saeng failed the test, the tone is one of shame and caution. Saeng says, "I - I failed the test," after which the narration states, "Saeng did not dare look her mother in the eye." Obviously Saeng is ashamed of herself, and is afraid of her mother's reaction. However, her mother's reaction turns out to be understanding and slightly sympathetic, as portrayed by not talking about the loss and accepting the dok faeng-wei plant. Thus, it is shown that Saeng feels an immense sadness after she fails the test, mainly because of her disappointment at the changes.

By including the words, "I will take that test again," Saeng instills a newfound hope in the readers, in that Saeng is willing to try and correct her mistakes. To that effect, the author effectively wraps up the story with a positive light, as opposed to the disappointment felt through Saeng throughout most of the story.

Q3-17

I think the author ended the story with a picture because he wanted to get the point of the story through and not just let it drop at that. Because then it would be boring because you would not get the point of it.

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58 Write your response to Number 58 on the lines below. Only what you write on  
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Q3-19

Minfong Ho concluded the short story with the sentence about melting snow, returning geese, the budding hibiscus, and Saeng vowing to take the retest because this statement brings closure to earlier themes posed throughout the plot. The first theme is Saeng who has failed her driver's test. The second theme is Saeng entering the florist's shop. In this scene, Saeng, sees a hibiscus plant which causes her to recall her childhood in her homeland of Vietnam. She remembers the plants there and her grandmother. The third theme is the winter which is very subtly mentioned. But it is clear in the scene with Saeng's mother working outside in the cold in the garden. The fourth theme blends in with the third theme. The winter geese flying down south signifies the season of winter. It also represents Saeng learning to assimilate into her new country. The sentence about the melting snow, geese, budding hibiscus, and Saeng's vow all relate to the four prior themes. The sentence on the whole is concerned with the passage of time; and with that passage time, the snow, geese, hibiscus, and, to a large degree, Saeng's life will continue as they always did.

SECRET E151 DOW/02/05

Name Key

Form BCRS

Team \_\_\_\_\_

Reader # \_\_\_\_\_

	Q 1	Q 2	Q3
1.	1	2	0
2.	2	1	1
3.	2	2	1
4.	1	3	3
5.	2	3	3
6.	3	1	1
7.	1	1	2
8.	0	3	3
9.	2	1	1
10.	2	3	2
11.	3	2	1
12.	1	1	1
13.	2	2	3
14.	1	0	2
15.	1	3	3
16.	3	2	1
17.	3	1	0
18.	2	2	3
19.	1	1	3
20.	3	3	1