

Mulan

When the Emperor calls every man to join the army and fight the enemy, Mulan's father is old and ill, and cannot go.

Wearing men's clothes and riding a horse, Mulan leaves her family and fights bravely for the Emperor in her father's place.

She is soon a hero for all the soldiers in the Chinese army. One of them, Ye Ming, is her best friend. But does he know that she is a woman? And can Mulan fall in love with a friend?

Illustrated by Kanako Damerum and Yuzuru Takasaki

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DOMINOES provide reading and learning at four language levels. As well as enjoyable stories, each book provides a range of integrated activities designed to develop reading skills, consolidate vocabulary, and offer personalized project work.

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Mulan

RETOLD BY JANET HARDY-GOULD



S MULAN RETOLD BY JANET HARDY-GOULD

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activities

BEFORE READING

1 Look at these things. Who does them more often? Write **Men** or **Women**.



fight in an army

men...



make things to eat

women



ride a horse

men...



make cloth

women



stay at home

women...



wear nice clothes

women



make fires

men...



put up tents

men...

2 What about you? Tick the boxes.

a Can you ...

- ride a horse? —
- make a fire? —
- put up a tent? —

b Do you ...

- clean the house? +
- wear nice clothes? +
- make things to eat? +

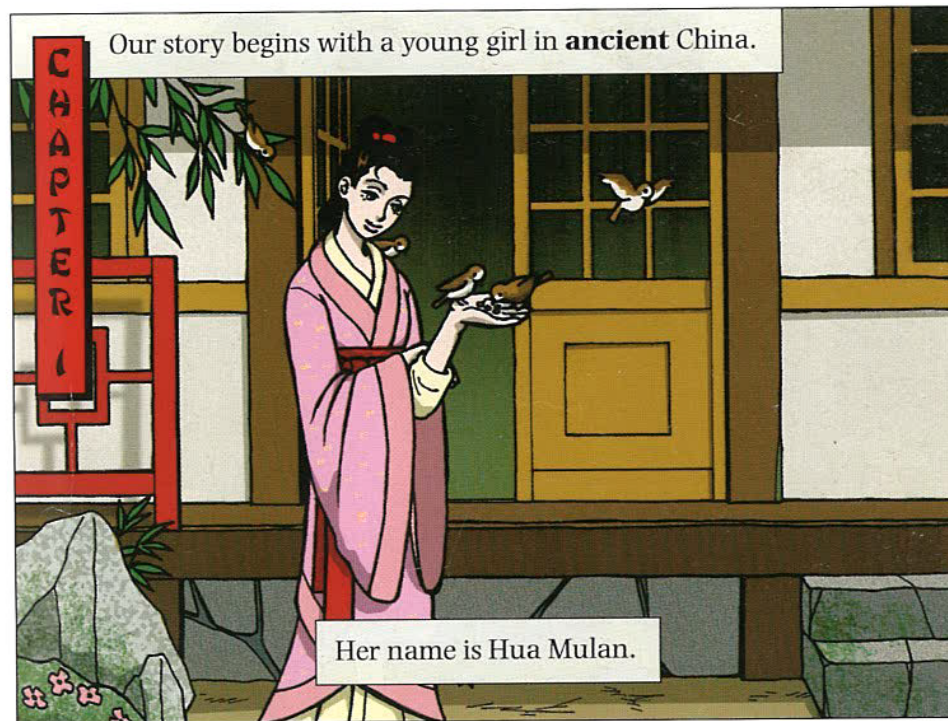
3 Mulan is a young woman from ancient China. Which things does she do well?

She wears nice clothes.

She makes things to eat.
 She makes cloth.
 She stays at home.
 She rides a horse.
 She fights in an army.



Mulan



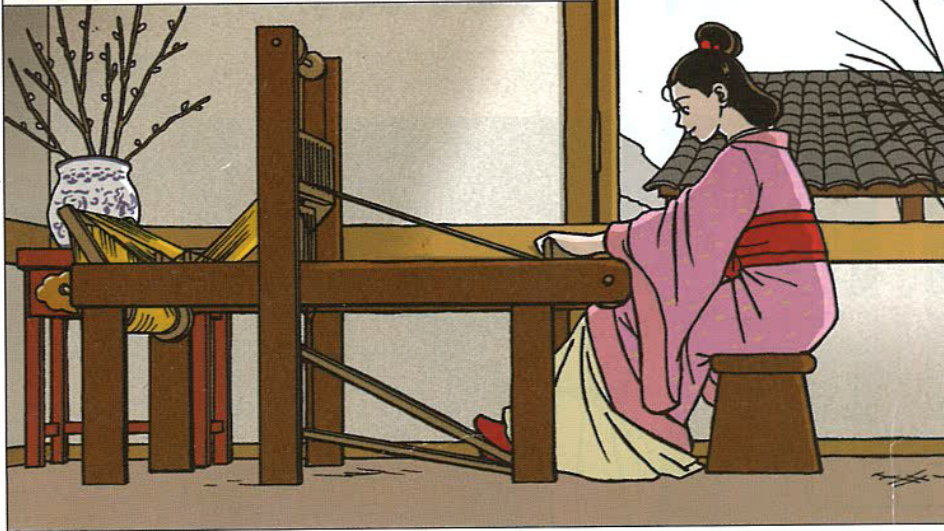
She lives with her **parents**, her older sister, and her younger brother in a little village.



ancient old

parent a mother or father

One morning, Mulan is working in her room. She is making **cloth** to **sell** at the **market**.



Suddenly, she hears a noise. She goes to the window and looks out. A lot of people are running down the street.



Mulan sees her friend, Sun Ying. 'What's the matter?' asks Mulan. 'Quick! Come and see,' says Sun Ying.

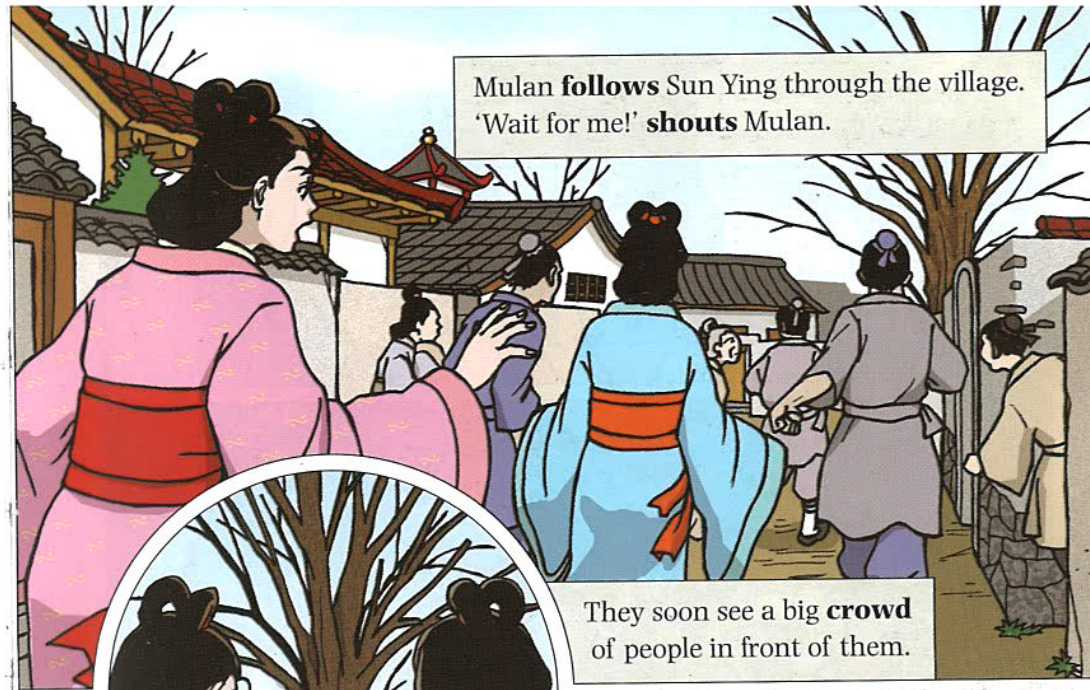


cloth you make clothes from this

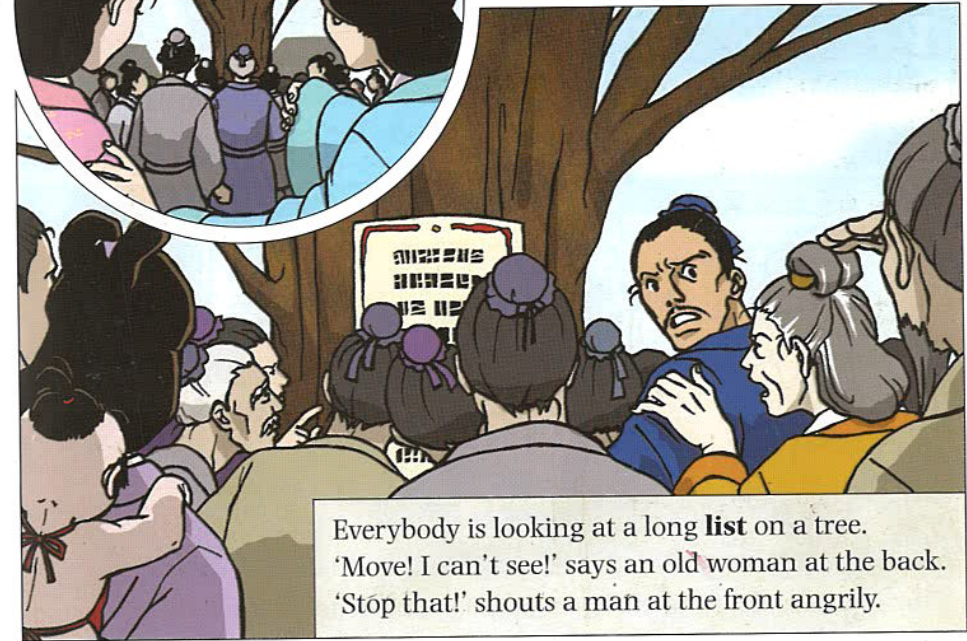
sell to take money for something

market where people go to sell things in the street

Mulan **follows** Sun Ying through the village. 'Wait for me!' **shouts** Mulan.



They soon see a big **crowd** of people in front of them.



Everybody is looking at a long **list** on a tree. 'Move! I can't see!' says an old woman at the back. 'Stop that!' shouts a man at the front angrily.

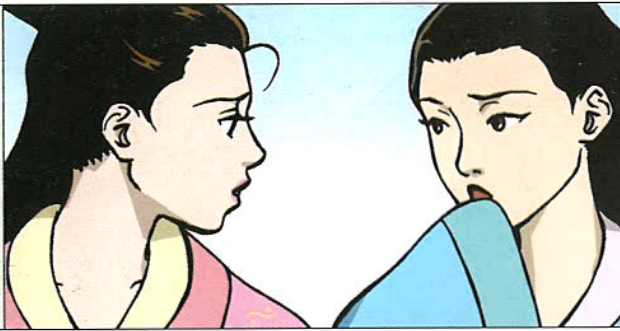
follow to go after someone

shout to say noisily

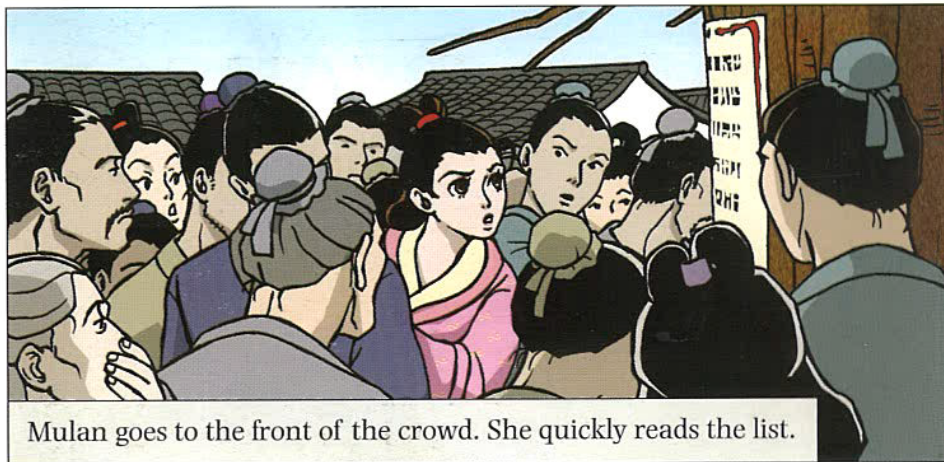
crowd a lot of people

list a lot of names that you write one after the other

'What's on the list?'
Mulan asks Sun Ying.
'The **enemy** are now
here in our country,'
says Sun Ying,
'and we must **fight**
them. The **Emperor**
needs a very big **army**.'



'One man from every family must **join** the army tomorrow,' says Sun Ying.
'The names of all the men in the village are on the list.'



Mulan goes to the front of the crowd. She quickly reads the list.

enemy people who are not friends
of your country

emperor the most important man in
a number of countries

join to go with

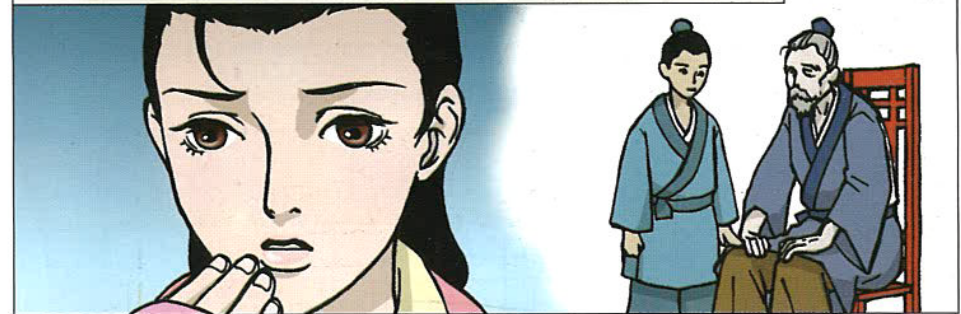
fight to hit someone again and again

army a number of men who fight

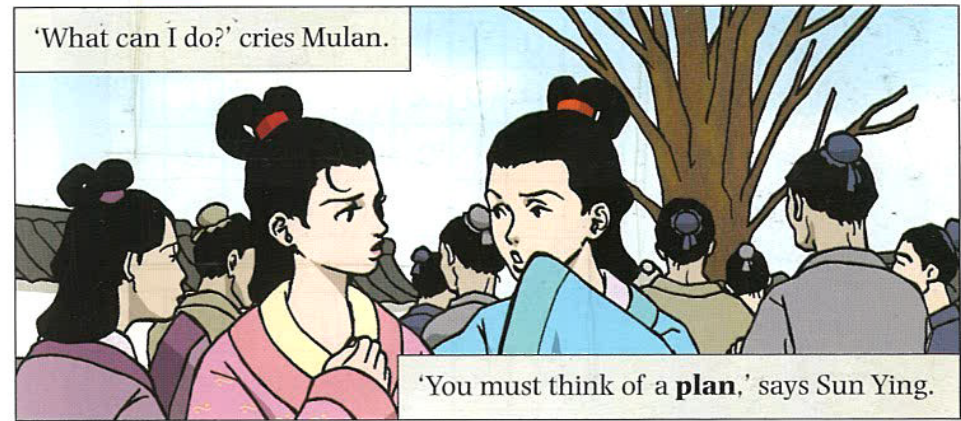
'Oh, no!' cries Mulan. 'Look! My father's name is the first on the list.'



'My father can't fight,' says Mulan. 'He's old and ill. And my
brother, **Xiong**, is a young child. He can't join the army.'



'What can I do?' cries Mulan.



'You must think of a **plan**,' says Sun Ying.

Xiong /ʃɔŋ/

plan when you get something ready
to do later

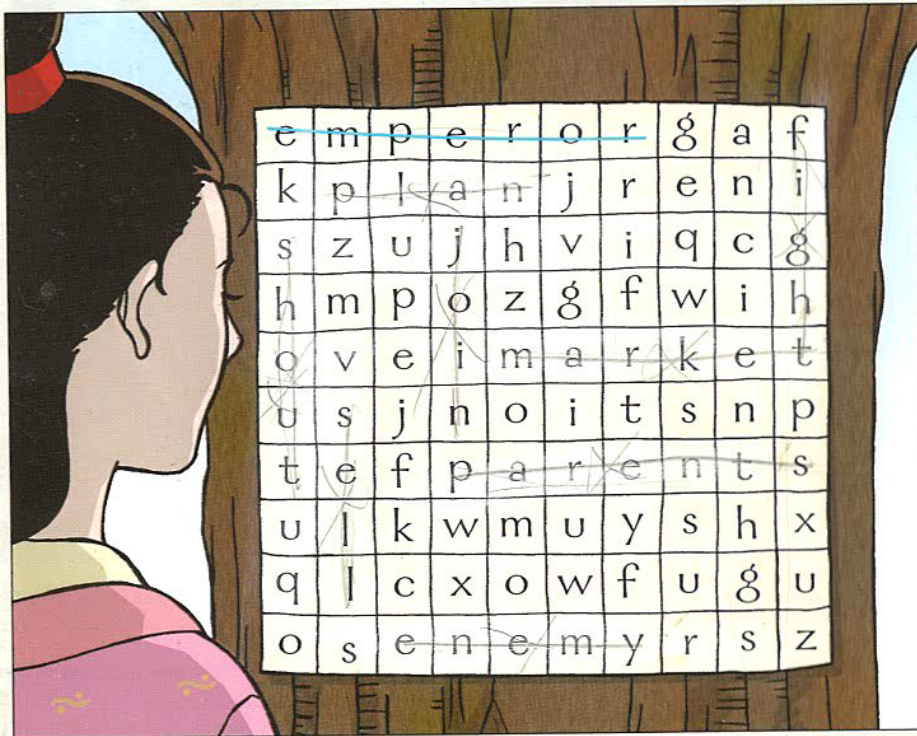
READING CHECK

Match the first and second parts of the sentences.

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| a | Mulan lives ... | 1 | a big army. |
| b | Mulan's father is ... | 2 | some cloth. |
| c | Xiong is ... | 3 | in a little village. |
| d | At home Mulan is making ... | 4 | a plan. |
| e | Mulan follows Sun Ying ... | 5 | young. |
| f | A crowd of people is looking at ... | 6 | through the village. |
| g | The Emperor needs ... | 7 | old and ill. |
| h | Mulan must think of ... | 8 | a long list. |

WORD WORK

1 Find nine more words from Chapter 1 in the wordsquare.



2 Use the words from Activity 1 to complete the sentences.

- a The emperor of China is an important man.
- b Mulan lives with her parents, her older sister and her younger brother.
- c Mulan makes cloth and sells it at the market in the village.
- d This is a very village. It's two thousand years old.
- e The country needs a big army to fight the enemy.
- f Mulan's brother can't join the army because he's very young.
- g 'What can we do tonight?' 'I have a plan... We can go to a Chinese restaurant.'
- h 'Don't shout... ! I can hear you very well.'

GUESS WHAT

What happens in the next chapter? Tick one box.



a Mulan's father joins the army.

b Mulan's father doesn't join the army, and the emperor is angry with him.



c Mulan joins the army.

d Mulan and her family go away from their home village.

Mulan runs home to her family. 'Mother, Father,' she cries. 'I have some bad **news**. The Emperor wants a man from every house to fight in the army.'



'Then I must go,' says her father. 'You can't go, you're ill,' says her mother.



'But when a man doesn't join the army the Emperor always **punishes** his family,' says her father.



'It's all right,' says Mulan. 'I'm young and **strong**. I can go **in Father's place**.'



'But how?' asks her mother. 'You're a girl and everybody knows it!'

news when someone tells you something that is new

punish to do something bad to someone after they do something bad

strong with a body that works well

in someone's place when you do something for someone because they can't do it

'I can be a man. I can learn to walk with my head up, and to shout when I talk,' she says. 'And I can wear **soldier's clothes**.'



'Mulan,' says her father, 'you're a **brave** daughter. You can join the army and **save** our family name.'



'Can I join the army with you?' asks Xiong. Mulan laughs, 'You're a boy, Xiong. Perhaps you can be a soldier when you're a man.'



'Please be careful,' says her mother. Her father gives some money to her. 'You must be ready to join the army,' he says.



soldier a person in an army

clothes people wear these

brave not afraid

save to stop bad things happening to someone or something

Mulan needs to **buy** a horse. She runs to the market.



An old man calls to Mulan. 'Look at this horse,' he shouts. 'It's the best one in the village.' 'Can I **ride** it?' asks Mulan. 'Of course,' he says.



So Mulan gets on the horse and rides it. 'It's wonderful,' she says. 'How much is it?'



Later Mulan walks through the market with her new horse. She buys a beautiful **saddle** for it.



When Mulan rides home from the market, she meets Sun Ying. 'Mulan!' shouts Sun Ying. 'You have a new horse! Where are you going?'



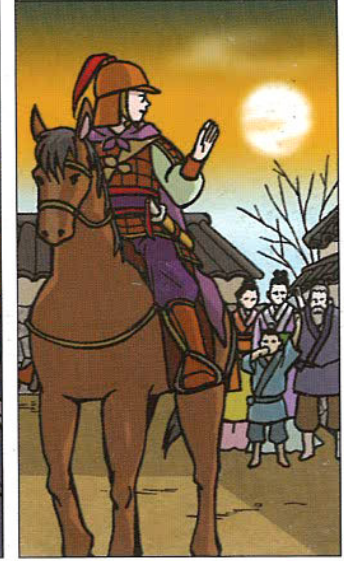
'It's a **secret**,' **whispers** Mulan. 'My plan is to join the army in my father's place.' 'You're very brave and **clever**,' Mulan. But please be careful,' says Sun Ying. 'And good luck!'



The next day Mulan is ready to leave. 'Don't forget us,' whispers Xiong. He is crying. 'Please come home soon,' says her mother.



Mulan says goodbye to her family. She rides away quickly.



buy to give money for something
ride to go on a horse

saddle the thing that you put on a horse's back to sit on

secret something that you don't tell to everybody

whisper to speak very quietly

clever quick-thinking

READING CHECK

Put these sentences in the correct order. Number them 1–8.

- a Mulan goes to the market.
- b Mulan tells her parents about her plan.
- c Mulan rides away quickly.
- d Mulan runs home.
- e Mulan buys a horse.
- f Mulan's family says goodbye to her.
- g Mulan tells her secret to her friend Sun Ying.
- h Mulan's father gives some money to her.

WORD WORK

1 Find words from Chapter 2 in the clothes.



a c lever



b s ave



c b are



d w ispers



e s rang



f s addle



g p lace



h n ews

2 Complete the sentences with words from Activity 1.

- a Mulan has a good plan; she's very clever.
- b Mulan has some important news about the names on the army list.
- c Mulan joins the army in her father's _____.
- d Mulan wants to join the army and _____ the family name.
- e Mulan isn't afraid to fight; she's very _____.
- f Mulan _____ her secret to Sun Ying.
- g Mulan's horse has a new _____.
- h Soldiers must walk far and fight well; they must be very _____.

GUESS WHAT

What does Mulan do in the next chapter? Tick the boxes.

Yes No

Mulan ...

- a comes home after two weeks. The Emperor punishes her. Yes No
- b joins the army. Nobody knows she is a woman. Yes No
- c joins the army. She fights very bravely against the enemy. Yes No
- d leaves the army. Everybody laughs because she is a woman. Yes No
- e meets a friendly soldier – Ye Ming. He helps her. Yes No



Mulan rides for two days ...



... over the Black Hills ...



... and across **rivers**.



She rides through the cold dark night, and through the **snow**. Then suddenly she sees hundreds of little **lights** in front of her.



She finds thousands of soldiers with their **tents** near the Yellow River. The light comes from their **fires**. She stops her horse and gets off.



river water that moves through the country in a long line

light a thing that helps you to see in the dark

fire this is red and hot, and it burns

snow something soft, cold and white

tent a house made of cloth that you can take with you when you move

'Hello there!' shouts one young man. 'Come and join us.'



'I'm Ye Ming,' he says. 'Would you like something hot to drink?'
'Yes, please. My name's Hua Mu—, sorry ... Hua Hu,' says Mulan quickly.



'Come and sit by the fire,' shouts Ye Ming. 'This is Hua Hu,' he says to the soldiers near them.
'**Welcome** brother,' say the soldiers.



That night, Mulan sleeps in one of the tents.
'Everything is all right,' she thinks. 'I'm a woman but nobody knows my secret.'



welcome we say this when someone arrives and we are happy to see them

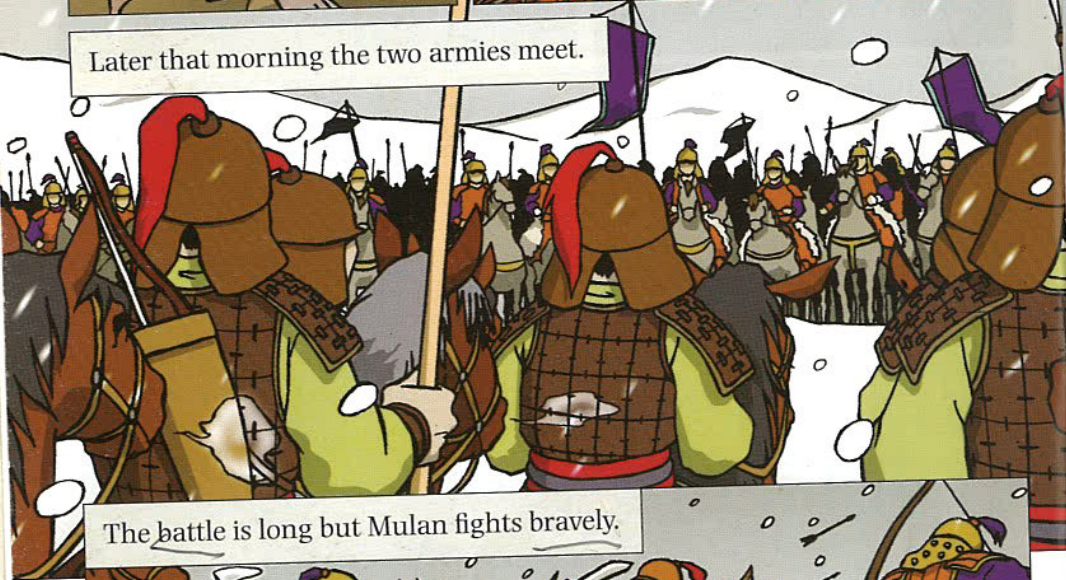
In the morning Ye Ming gets up early. 'Hua Hu,' he whispers. 'Are you **awake**?' 'We must get ready. The enemy is not far from us.'



All of the soldiers get ready for the **battle**. Then the **general** of the Chinese army talks to his men. 'Are you ready to fight?' he shouts. 'Yes!' they cry.



Later that morning the two armies meet.



The **battle** is long but Mulan fights bravely.



awake not sleeping
battle a fight between two armies

general a very important person in an army

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Hours later, many of the Chinese soldiers are dead. Mulan looks at them. 'Oh no, what can I do?' she thinks.



Suddenly she starts to ride **towards** the enemy. 'Brave soldiers follow me!' she cries. The soldiers ride quickly after Mulan. She fights at the front with Ye Ming **next** to her.



An enemy soldier wants to kill Ye Ming. 'Watch out!' cries Mulan. Ye Ming rides away fast. 'Thank you!' he shouts to Mulan.



After many hours the Chinese army **wins** the battle. The soldiers all come to Mulan. 'You're our **hero**!' they cry. 'We can win every battle now!'



towards going to

win 'to be the best in a battle

next to near

hero a person who does something brave or good

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Handwritten text in blue ink: Երեմիայի Ավ. ԳԿԶ

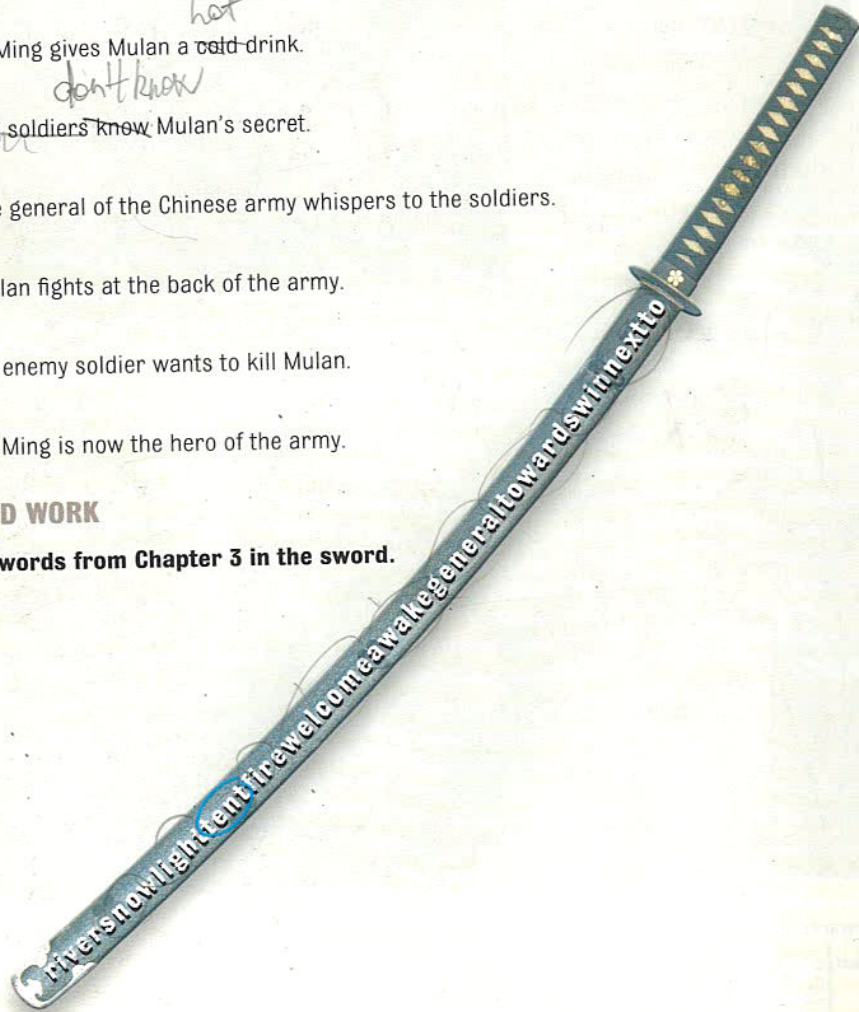
READING CHECK

Correct the mistakes.

- a For ~~five~~^{two} days Mulan rides across rivers and over hills.
- b Mulan finds thousands of soldiers next to the Red River. *Yellow*
- c Ye Ming gives Mulan a ~~cold~~^{hot} drink.
- d The soldiers ~~know~~^{don't know} Mulan's secret.
- e The general of the Chinese army whispers to the soldiers.
- f Mulan fights at the back of the army.
- g An enemy soldier wants to kill Mulan.
- h Ye Ming is now the hero of the army.

WORD WORK

1 Find words from Chapter 3 in the sword.



2 Use the words from Activity 1 to complete these sentences.

- a On holiday we don't stay in a hotel. We always sleep in a tent.
- b It's very dark in here. We need a light.
- c The Nile is a very long river.
- d 'Do you feel cold? Come and sit near the fire.'
- e 'Is your young son asleep?' 'No, he's asleep.'
- f When someone arrives at your house, you can say 'welcome'.
- g 'Where's the market?' 'Walk west the supermarket and you can see it on the left.'
- h His father is a very important person in the army; he's a general.
- i It's very cold here in the winter and there's usually a lot of snow.
- j Mulan helps the Chinese army to win the battle.
- k Mulan always fights against her friend Ye Ming.

GUESS WHAT

What happens in the next chapter? Tick the boxes.

a Mulan is now ...



the Emperor's friend.



a general.



with the enemy.

b When Mulan meets the Emperor, he ...



puts her in prison.

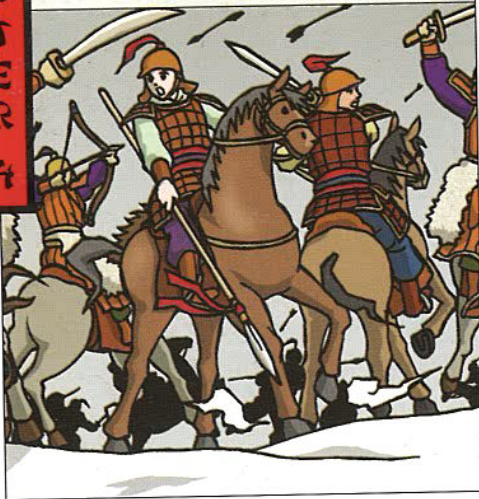


gives a house to her.



gives a horse to her.

Mulan fights in many more battles. Ye Ming always fights next to her.



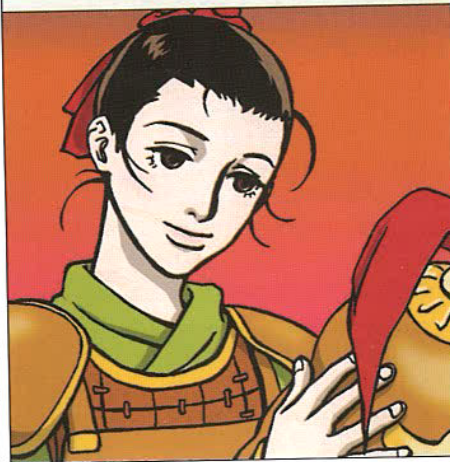
'Hua Hu, you're very brave and clever!' say the soldiers. 'You must **lead** us into every battle.'



After some years Mulan **becomes** a general in the army. She **chases** the enemy out of China.



People all over the country hear of this **famous** soldier. But nobody knows her secret. Nobody knows her true name – Mulan!



lead to go in front

become to change from one thing to a different thing

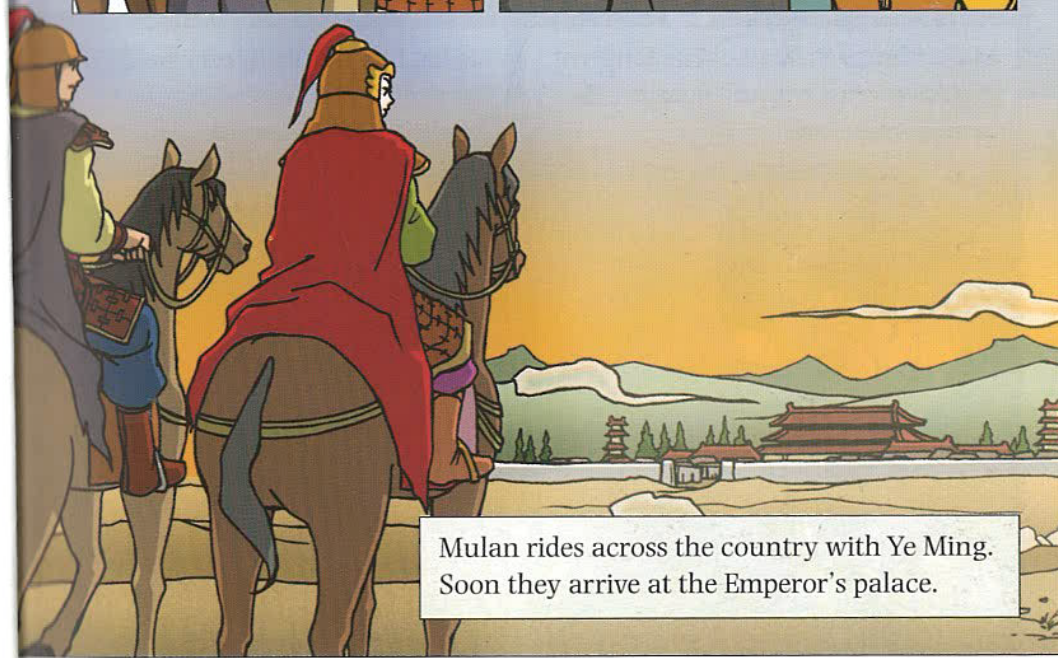
chase to follow behind someone quickly

famous when many people know a person

One day a soldier visits Mulan. 'I have a **message** from the Emperor,' he says.



'What is it?' asks Mulan. 'You must come to the Emperor's **palace**,' says the soldier.



Mulan rides across the country with Ye Ming. Soon they arrive at the Emperor's palace.

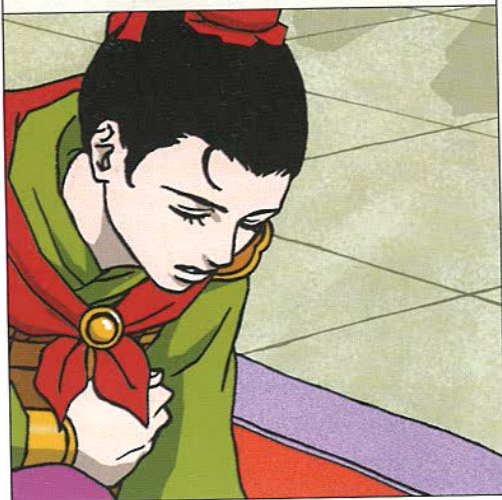
message something that one person tells another person to say to someone

palace a big house where an emperor lives

'Hua Hu, your name is famous. You are the bravest soldier in China,' says the Emperor. 'Our country is **safe** now. I must thank you for that.'



Mulan **bows** in front of the Emperor. 'A soldier must live and fight for his country,' she says.



'What can I do for you?' the Emperor asks. 'Do you want to become a **minister**? Or would you like a big house?'



safe when something bad cannot happen there

bow to put your head down in front of somebody important

minister an important person who helps an emperor

'No thank you,' says Mulan. 'But there is one thing . . .'



'Then leave the army and go home to your family,' says the Emperor. 'And please take my **finest** horse with you.'



fine beautiful

'What's that?' asks the Emperor. 'I want to go back to my family,' says Mulan. 'My father is an old man now and he needs my help.'



'Oh, thank you, it's beautiful,' says Mulan.



READING CHECK

Are these sentences true or false? Tick the boxes.

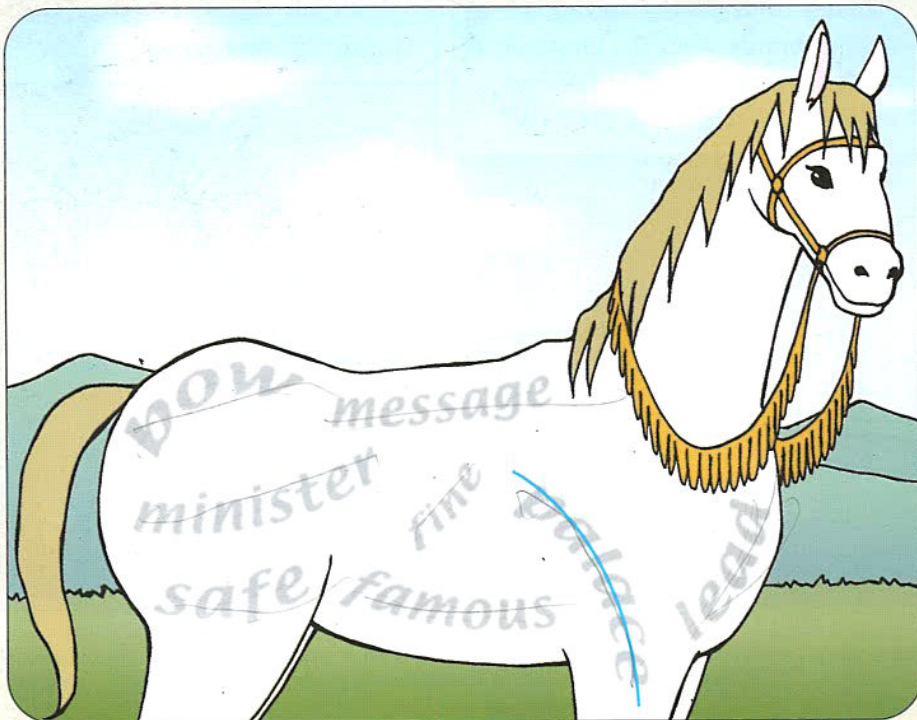
- a Mulan becomes a general in the army.
- b The enemy leave China.
- c Everybody in China knows Mulan's secret.
- d The Emperor sends a message to Ye Ming.
- e Mulan and Ye Ming ride to the Emperor's palace.
- f The Emperor is angry with Mulan.
- g Mulan wants to go home to her family.
- h The Emperor gives Mulan a big house.

True False

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
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WORD WORK

Use the words in the horse to complete the sentences on page 25.



- a The Emperor lives in a very big *palace*...
- b Mulan is a general. She must *lead* the army.
- c Mulan chases the enemy out of China. The country is now
- d A soldier gives Mulan a *message* from the Emperor.
- e When Mulan meets the Emperor, she must *bow* in front of him.
- f Mulan doesn't want to work for the Emperor and become an important *minister*.
- g The Emperor is very happy with Mulan. He gives her a *fine* horse.
- h The Great Wall of China is very *famous*. Everybody knows about it.

GUESS WHAT

What happens in the next chapter? Read the sentences and write Yes or No.



a Mulan tells the Emperor, 'I am a woman.' The Emperor is very angry with her.

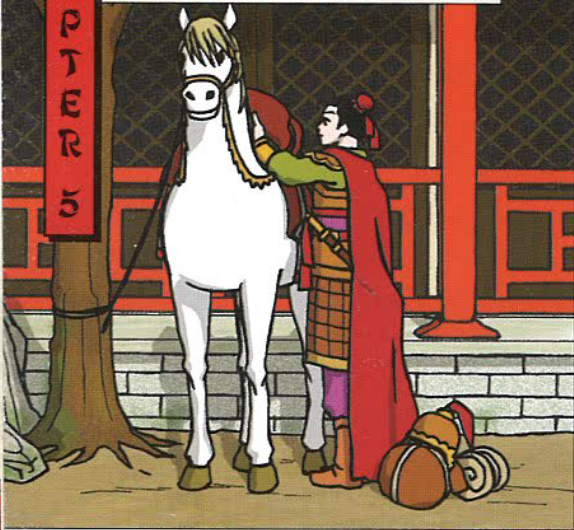
b Mulan says goodbye to Ye Ming. Then she rides home.



c Mulan rides home. Ye Ming goes with her.

d Mulan goes home but her father is dead.

The next day Mulan is ready to leave the Emperor's palace.



Ye Ming comes to say goodbye.



'Hua Hu, thank you for saving my life,' he says. 'Please don't forget me.'



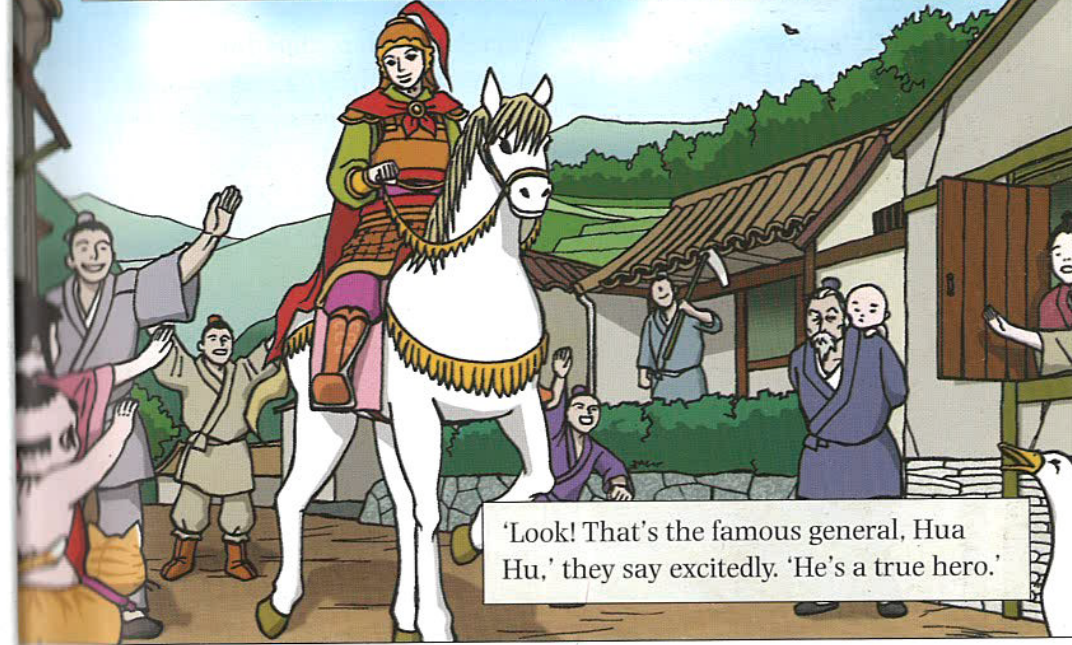
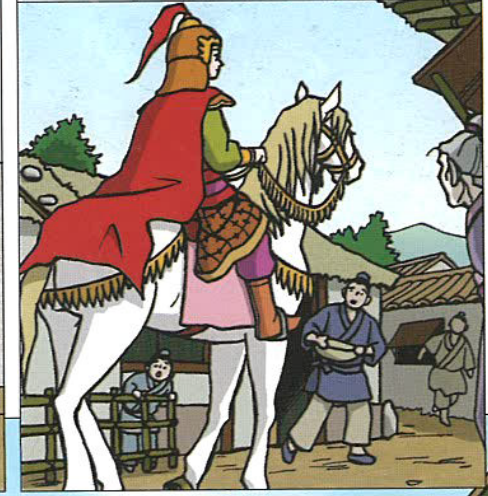
'How can I forget you?' says Mulan. 'You're my only true friend.'



Then Mulan begins the long **journey** home.



When she rides through villages, people come out of their houses and they **cheer**.

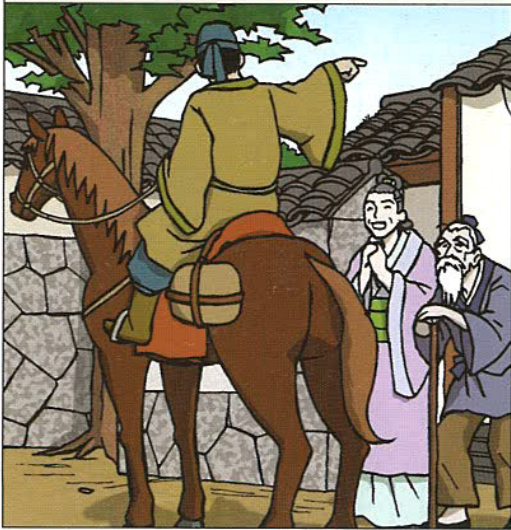


'Look! That's the famous general, Hua Hu,' they say excitedly. 'He's a true hero.'

journey when you go far

cheer to shout happily

Soon her parents hear the news from a **traveller**. Mulan is coming home!



They make a big **feast**.



Mulan's brother, Xiong, is a young man now, and he puts **firecrackers** ready at the **gate**.



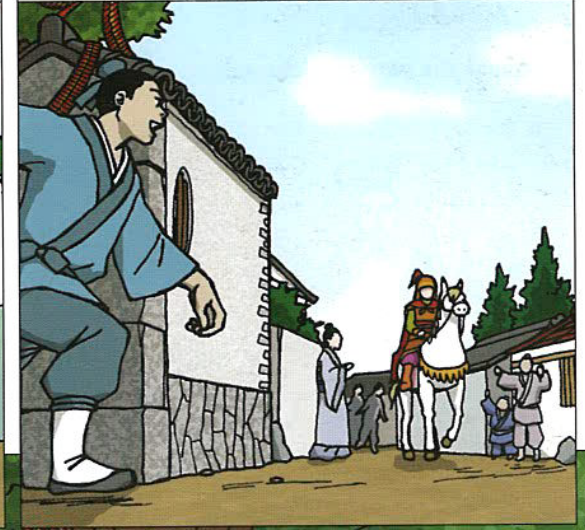
'When is Mulan coming home?' he asks every day.



The next morning Mulan arrives in the village.



Xiong runs out to see her. Mulan rides up to her house.



'Welcome home!' shouts Xiong over the noise of the firecrackers.



'Look at our daughter!' cries her mother. 'She is now an important general,' says her father. 'And she's riding the finest horse in the country!'

traveller someone who goes on a journey

feast a lot of things to eat

firecracker this makes a big noise when you put fire to it

gate a big door before the door of a house

READING CHECK

Choose the correct pictures.

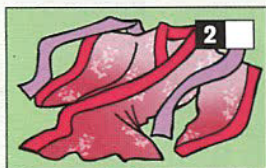
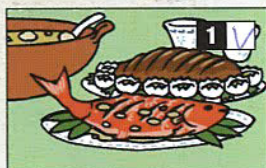
a Mulan says goodbye to ...



b When Mulan rides through villages, people ...



c Mulan's family make a ... for Mulan.



d Every day ... asks, 'When is Mulan coming home?'

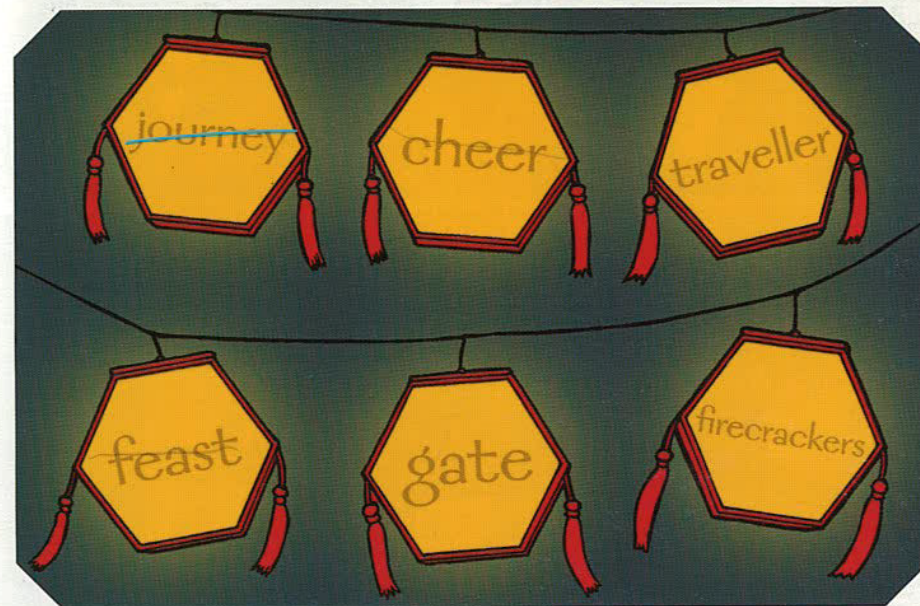


e Mulan's brother puts ... ready at the gate.



WORD WORK

Use the words in the lights to complete the sentences.



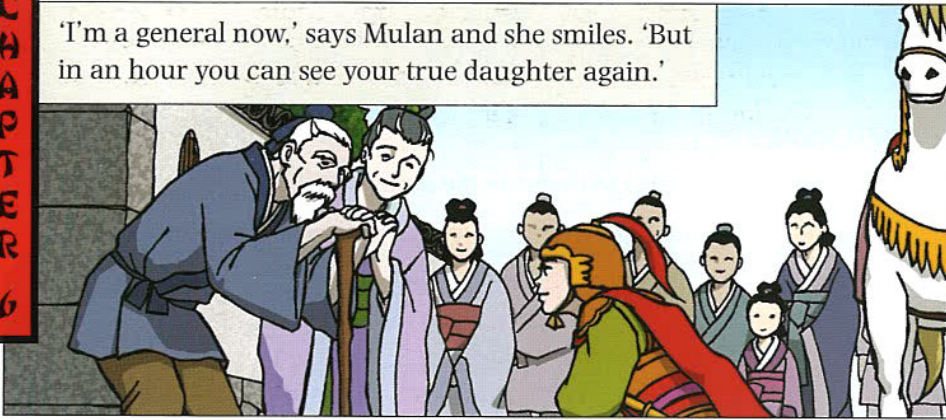
- a Mulan has a very long journey ; she rides for days and days.
- b When people see Mulan they cheer.
- c Mulan's parents make a big feast for their daughter.
- d Mulan is home! She is at the on her horse.
- e That man is a He rides from village to village.
- f Xiong welcomes Mulan home with

GUESS WHAT

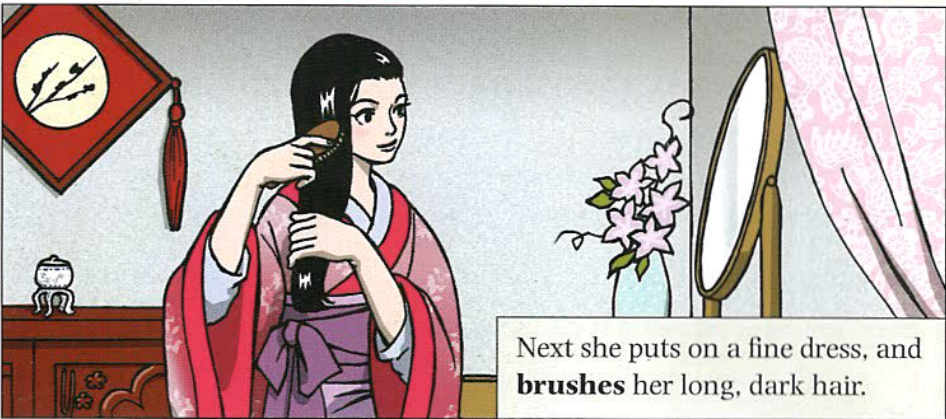
What happens at the end of the story? Tick one box.

- a Mulan joins the army again.
- b Ye Ming sees Mulan in her women's clothes. He is angry and goes away.
- c Ye Ming sees Mulan in her women's clothes. He loves her.
- d The Emperor sees Mulan in her women's clothes. He punishes her.

'I'm a general now,' says Mulan and she smiles. 'But in an hour you can see your true daughter again.'



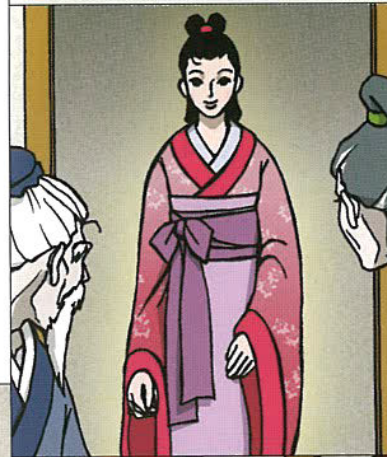
Mulan goes to her old room. First she takes off her soldier's clothes.



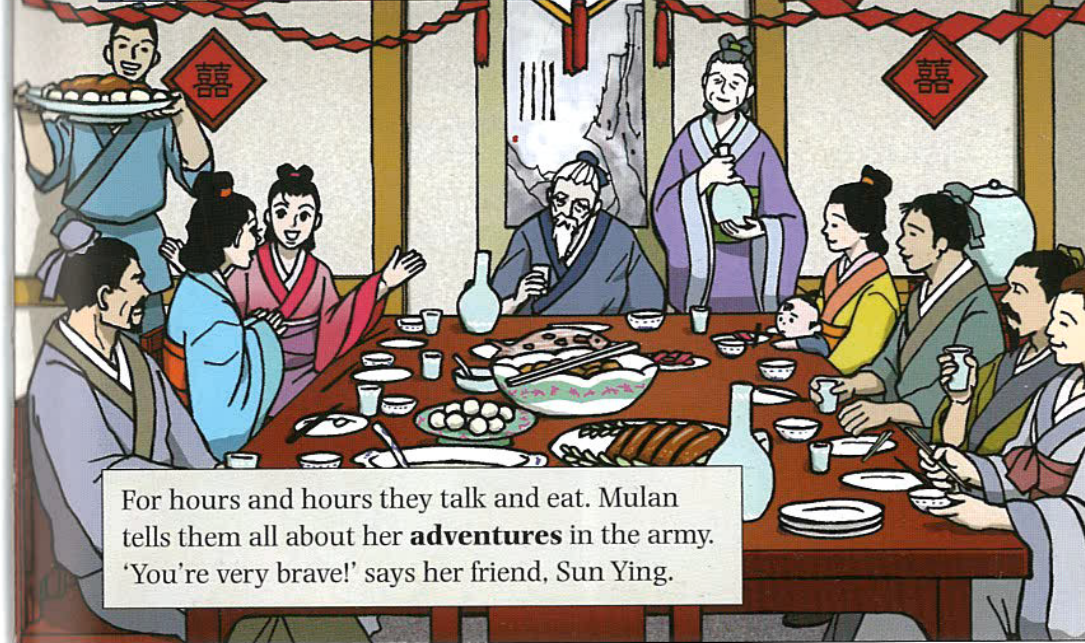
Next she puts on a fine dress, and **brushes** her long, dark hair.

brush to move something through your hair to make it look good

When Mulan comes out of her room she is beautiful. 'You're our daughter again!' cry her parents happily.



'Let's start the feast!' says her father. 'You must sit next to your father,' says her mother.



For hours and hours they talk and eat. Mulan tells them all about her **adventures** in the army. 'You're very brave!' says her friend, Sun Ying.

adventure something very exciting that happens to you

Mulan is happy to be at home again. Every day she helps her father.



One day she is making cloth in her room. Suddenly she hears a horse in the street. 'Hello there!' shouts a young man. 'Is there somebody at home?'



Mulan comes to the gate. The young man is Ye Ming. 'I'm looking for a young soldier. Hua Hu is his name . . .' he says, and then he stops.



'But it's you!' cries Ye Ming. 'You're Hua Hu, and you're a woman!' 'Yes, that's right!' says Mulan, and she laughs. 'Come in. I can **explain** everything.'



explain to talk to someone and make them understand something

Mulan and Ye Ming talk for a long time. They remember all their adventures, all their battles. 'It's good to talk to my best friend again,' says Ye Ming, and he smiles at Mulan.



Ye Ming meets Mulan's family. 'I'm very happy to meet you all,' he says. 'You have a very brave daughter.' 'Thank you,' says Mulan's father.



Ye Ming stays at the house for a week. Everybody in the family likes him.



One day, Ye Ming asks Mulan to **marry** him. 'I don't know,' answers Mulan. 'Can I marry my best friend from the army? We need to speak to my father.'



marry to make someone your wife

Ye Ming goes to Mulan's father. 'Of course, you can marry my daughter,' he says and he smiles. 'Ask Mulan to come here.'



Mulan talks with her father for many hours that night.



The next day Ye Ming asks Mulan to marry him again. This time she says 'yes'. 'I'm truly happy,' she says to Ye Ming. 'Now you can be my best friend and my **husband**.'

husband the man that a woman marries

Mulan marries Ye Ming. Everybody in the village comes to the **wedding**.



Mulan and Ye Ming live happily in the village for many years.

And to this day, people talk about Hua Mulan, the bravest girl in China.



wedding the time when two people marry

READING CHECK

Choose the right words to finish the sentences.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>a When Mulan goes to her room she puts on ...</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> an old dress.</p> <p>2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a fine dress.</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> soldier's clothes.</p> | <p>b At the feast Mulan tells everybody about her ... in the army.</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> friends</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> enemies</p> <p>3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> adventures</p> |
| <p>c Mulan is ... when Ye Ming arrives.</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> making a feast</p> <p>2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> making some cloth</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> helping her father</p> | <p>d Ye Ming stays with Mulan's family for ...</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> one day.</p> <p>2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a week.</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> a year.</p> |
| <p>e One day Ye Ming says to Mulan ...</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> 'Come back to the army!'</p> <p>2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 'Marry me!'</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> 'Goodbye!'</p> | <p>f In the end Mulan ... Ye Ming.</p> <p>1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> marries</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> forgets</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> leaves</p> |

WORD WORK

1 Find words from Chapter 6 in the bowls.



a m arry



b e xplain



c w edding



d h usband

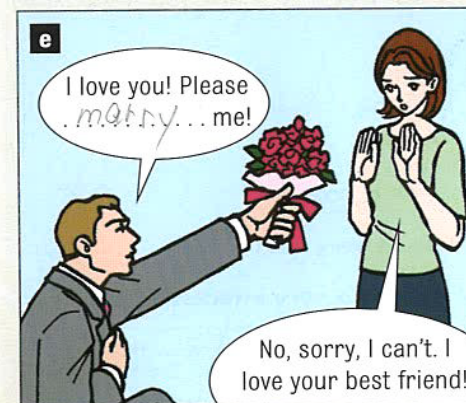
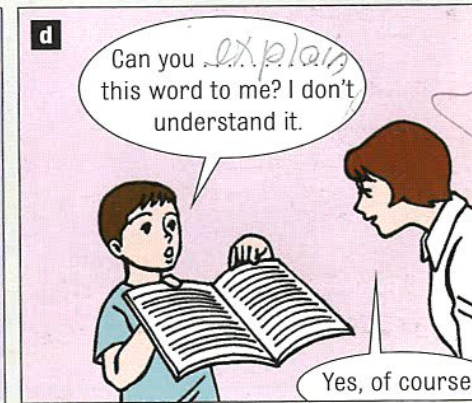
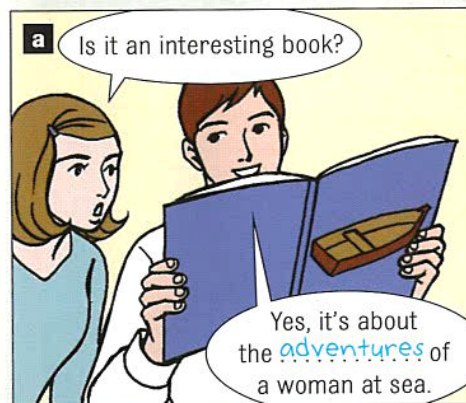


e b rush



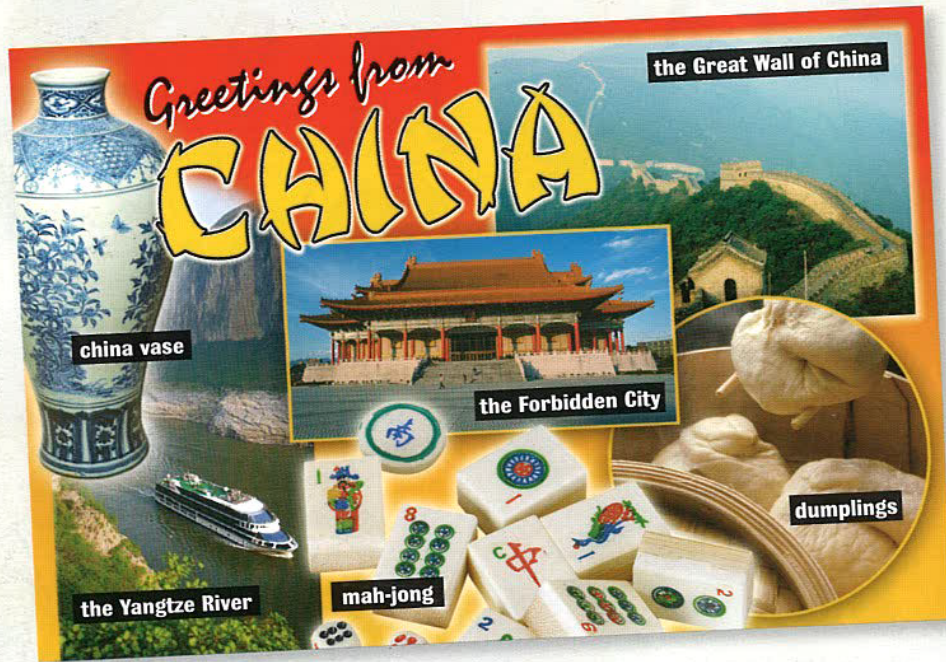
f a dventures

2 Use the words from Activity 1 to complete the sentences.



PROJECT A Things to see and do in China

1 Look at the pictures and complete the poster.



In China ...

- a You can visit the Forbidden City and the Great Wall of China. They are very famous places.
- b You can go down on a boat.
- c You can eat dumplings ...; they're very good.
- d People like playing mah-jong ...; it's a very interesting game!
- e You can buy a beautiful china vase ... to take home with you.

2 Look at these pictures of things to see and do in Japan. Write sentences about Japan.



In Japan ...

3 Write about things to see and do in your country.

PROJECT B *A Story on a Plate*

1 Join the sentences with the words in brackets.

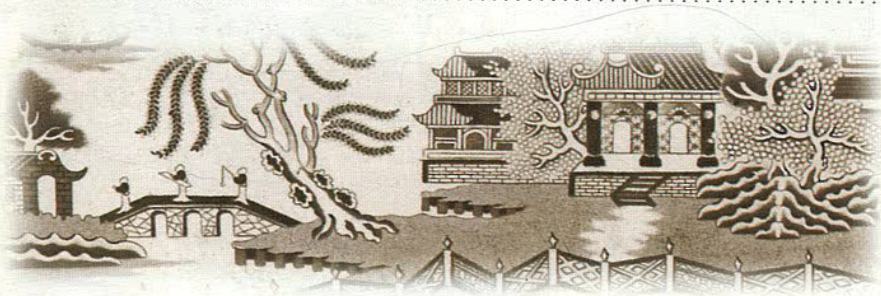
- a Mulan makes cloth at home. Mulan sells it at the market. (and)
Mulan makes cloth at home and she sells it at the market.
- b Mulan is a young woman. Mulan is strong and brave, too. (but)

- c Mulan sees a list of names on a tree. Mulan reads it. (and)

- d Xiong is very young. Xiong wants to join the army. (but)

- e Mulan is a woman. Most people don't know that. (but)

- f Mulan fights well. Mulan becomes a hero. (and)



2 Complete these sentences with so or because.

- a China's enemy is coming nearer the emperor needs an army.
- b Mulan's father is old and ill he can't fight in the army.
- c Mulan becomes a soldier she's a brave young woman.
- d The Emperor is happy with Mulan he gives a horse to her.
- e Mulan's brother puts firecrackers ready he wants to welcome Mulan noisily when she comes home.
- f Ye Ming marries Mulan he is in love with her.

3 Here is a story on a plate. Look at the pictures and read the story. Complete the sentences using and, but, because or so.



A Mandarin – an important Chinese man – lives with his beautiful daughter, Koong-Se. A young man, Chang, works for the Mandarin. Koong-Se loves Chang (a) he has no money. Every day Koong-Se and Chang meet secretly under a tree in the garden. One day Koong-Se's father hears about their secret. He chases Chang from the house (b) he is angry with him. After that the Mandarin says to Koong-Se, 'Chang has no money (c) you can't marry him.' The Mandarin finds a new husband for Koong-Se (d) he asks hundreds of people to a big wedding feast. Everybody drinks a lot at the feast (e) they sleep very well that night. Later Chang secretly comes to the palace in a boat (f) he quietly takes Koong-Se away. They want to go to a small island (g) the Mandarin sees them. Quickly the Mandarin chases them over the river. In the end the two lovers become two lovebirds in the sky.