1. Describe why the Monkey King wanted to go up to the dinner party in Heaven. Why did he feel he belonged at the party?

On page 8, the music and the scent of the dinner party in Heaven drifted down to the Flower-Fruit Mountain. This is attractive to Monkey King. He feels he belonged at the party because he identifies himself as a deity just as those deities at the dinner party (Yang, 8). On page 9, the background of Monkey King is depicted. He has great potential since he is born from a rock. Also, he is very talented in Kung-Fu. With these things, he is even more powerful than other deities. So that he wants to be identified as a deity by others.

1. Describe the gate guardian’s manners when Monkey King arrives. Be precise; use interpretive sentences and careful descriptions of his appearance and behavior.

On page 13, it can be observed that the guardian is much taller and stronger than Monkey King. He is able to hold Monkey King’s arm in one hand. When he saw Monkey King, he smiles to him. He uses the word “Ahem” to catch Monkey King’s attention instead of yelling at him rudely. When he talks to Monkey King, the guardian called him “sir” and use phrases like “pardon me”, “might” which show his politeness. On the panel on the right lower corner on page 13, he put aside his glaive (long handle blade). On page 15, after Monkey King is blocked, the guardian posts a posture to ask him to leave and said, “Have a good evening, sir” (Yang). From these behaviors and words, the gate guardian is depicted as a strong but polite person.

1. Describe 2-3 guests who appear on page 19, and where they appeared earlier in the text so far.

The one with a red face surrounded by fire is lying in the middle of the pile. He is first seen on page 7 and then on page 18. On page 18, the panel on the right depicts his fighting with Monkey King. He is punching with his fist on fire and said “Fire”. He might be a deity who is a master of using the power of fire.

There’s also a deity with two horns looks like a deer. He is first seen on page 12. He is also in the queue to enter the dinner party. On page 13, he is talking to the gate guardian to show his identity. According to the reaction of the guardian, we know that this deity with a deer horn is Ao-Jun, the Dragon King of the western sea.

1. In no less than 40 words, describe the environment, character, action, etc. on the bottom-right panel on page 20.

After Monkey King returned from Heaven, he sat on his stone throne. The surrounding is dark as if he is the only monkey in the mountain. He looks depressive. He is staring blankly in the dark. He lied his arms on the armrest of this throne and put both feet on the ground like a well-behaved child.

1. In just two sentences, summarize Mr. and Mrs. Wang’s careers in America.

At first, Mr. Wang worked as a salesman and Mrs. Wang worked at cannery. Eventually, Mr. Wang becomes an engineer and Mrs. Wang becomes a librarian.

1. Repeat what Jin boldly says to the herbalist just after he finishes showing her how his robot toy transforms.

He said he wants to grow up to be a transformer while his mother thinks it’s silly.

1. Describe the blond-haired child’s *relationships* with other kids (including Jin) on pages 32-33. How do his relationships *contrast* with those of the bullies and Jin?

He is one of the friends of the kids who bullied Jin. On page 33, when the three boy left, the boy in the middle put his arms on the blond-haired child and the other one’s back. This indicates they are friends. However, when the boy with a short straight hair bullied Jin, the blond-haired boy stopped him. After that, on page 33, on the top panels, the boy on the left turned to humiliate the blond-haired boy. The blond-haired boy argues back and the boy on the left eventually give up humiliating him.

1. List several similarities between the *top panels* of page 30 and 36. What might these similarities say about the *setting, characters*, or *environment* of Jin’s school?

Both of the scene depicts the first time when these two Chinese looking boy comes to this class. However, the teachers both fails to pronounce their names correctly. Although the teacher is trying to welcome the new commers, this embarrassment at the first class may still make Jin and Sun feel uneasy and not very friendly.

1. Describe the “camera” *angle* or *perspective* of the single panel on page 40. What does the perspective focus on?  What other actions, objects, etc. is this perspective including?

The scene depicted by this panel has a strong sense of space. The perspective indicates the depth of this scene. Two boys playing rugby is in the close shot while Jin and Sun are set in a long-range. So that their face is ambiguous. Also, the two boys playing rugby are placed on the left of this panel while the other pair is on the right. This space division also indicate their relations. By observing the action two pairs of boys are doing, we find that one is moving while the Jin and Sun are relatively static, this shows different hobbies of two pairs of boys. This also implies the different characters of them.

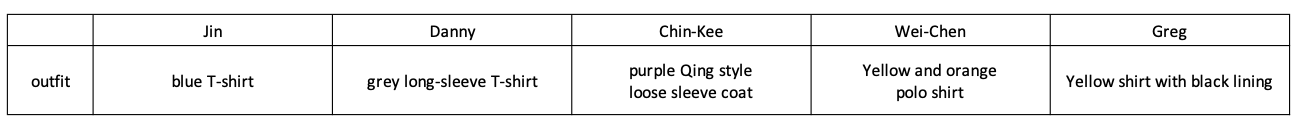
1. You’ve seen one example of a Chinese stereotype in Fu Manchu.  In what ways does the character Chin-Kee on page 43 (or other pages) resemble this stereotype?

On page 43, the outlook of Chin-Kee reflects stereotype of how a Chinese looks like. The name Chin-Kee is close to “chinky”. This word is used by some racism referring to East Asian features. Also, we can see that Chin-Kee has the typical stereotype feature, the eyes seem to be closed and the big round nose. From his outfit on page 43 and 48, Chin-Kee is wearing a traditional Qing outfit: clothes with loose sleeves and a round hat. Also, he keeps a queue.

2. Notice on multiple panels in this chapter are written the sound effects “Hahaha” and “Clapclapclap.”  What and who is making these sounds, and why?  What “atmosphere” and environment are these sounds supposed to evoke?

Those “Hahaha” and “Clap Clap” are not just made by Chin-Kee occasionally. Actually, from page 48 to page 52, those sound effects are made by Chin-Kee continuously. Those sound are used to reflect Chin-Kee’s characters. Since the environment before his arrival is quiet and peaceful, his “Hahaha Clapclapclap” broke the original atmosphere. Those sound effects show the rudeness and impoliteness of Chin-Kee. Those sounds effects make the atmosphere awkward and even a little scary.

3. Compare and contrast some physical attribute with any of the following characters, in any combination: Jin, Danny, Chin-Kee, Wei-Chen, Greg (33).  You may want to construct a **table**listing the character vs. one particular attribute you are comparing.  For example:



4. Between 59-60 the Monkey King looks different from his usual self.  Describe, using the proper language for graphic narratives, how the images on page 59 “build up” to reveal this “new” Monkey King.

The panel on page 59 uses others’ perspective. On the left bottom panel, one of the monkey put his hand on his chin and poses a thinking look. He noticed the Monkey King looks differently. Then they talk about it and have a conclusion: maybe Monkey King has a new haircut. Actually, this method is used to indicate the change of Monkey King.

5. Compare the *angles*of perspective between Ao-Kuang, Lao-Tzu, Yama, the Jade Emperor, and Monkey on pages 63 and 65.  To you, what is the *effect* of portraying all these characters at the same angle?

When portraying Ao-Kuang, Lao-Tzu, Yama, and the Jade Emperor, their perspective are similar. On page 65, the three characters are put in the middle of the panel with nothing else. This is used to create a first-person perspective of Monkey King. Those first-person perspective enhance the engagement of readers to Monkey King. It makes reader feel the mocking at Monkey King more vivid as if they are mocking at myself. Therefore, readers can understand the Monkey King’s mood better.

6. On pages 72-76, Monkey travels to “the end of all that is.”  Describe how the panels attempt to show this place effectively.

On page 72, the panels on the top row shows the background is gradually turning from the black universe to the color of the paper. And on the bottom panel, he seems to broke the frame of a panel which indicates he flew through the boundaries of reality itself. On page 73 to 76, there’s no frame. User use the background color and the broken panel frame to indicates Monkey King has gone far beyond the reality for the comic character.

7. Describe the events on page 80-81 in terms of *story.*What does the Monkey King *want?*  How is his walking with Tze-Yo-Tzuh helping him to get what he wants?  What is getting in the way of what he wants?  Describe how his speech and behavior on the *middle right* panel on page 81 might relate to his obstacles.

Monkey King want to be identified as a deity instead of a monkey. On page 80, when he is walking with Tze-Yo-Tzuh, Monkey King is listening to what he says about his identity. His facial expression implies his shocked by the power and the identity of Tze-Yo-Tzuh. The Tze-Yo-Tzuh tells him he is intended to be a monkey and he should do nothing but except this. On the middle right panel, Monkey King feels uncomfortable for his speech and get angry. He threats Tze-Yo-Tzuh he will takes him.

1. 87-89: Between these pages, contrast the speed, the physical qualities, and 1-2 other aspects concerning *Jin and Amelia*’s relationship versus *Wei-Chen and Suzy*’s relationship.

Jin and Amelia’s relation goes much slower comparing to Wei-Chen and Suzy’s. Jin doesn’t even dare to talk to Amelia while Wei-Chen shows more confident. Jin and Amelia looks different since Jin has black hair, yellow skin. Amelia has blonde hair, blue eyes and fair skin. By comparison, Wei-Chen and Suzy who both have Asian look.

1. Compare the bottom-right panel of page 89 with the bottom-left panel of page 93, in particular the foreground and background.  Describe the relationships between characters.  Where is Jin positioned in relation to other characters *in these panels*?

In the panel on page 89, author use the indoor special structure to indicate the sense of space. Jin are placed in a distance with Wei-Chen and Suzy with a surprised look. Similarly, the panel on page 93 also use the indoor structure to indicate the distance between Amelia and Greg. In both panels, Jin is placed in the background, looks lonely.

1. On pages 94 and 95, Jin makes fun of Suzy and WC, and WC and Suzy make fun of Jin.  Summarize these jokes.

Jin makes fun of Suzy and WC’s close behavior in public space is embarrassing. WC and Suzy make fun of Jin’s cowardliness of not daring to talk to Amelia, and his behavior when confronted with Amelia.

1. When Wei-Chen first mentions Jin to Amelia on pg. 101, how does Amelia first describe Jin?

She described Jin as “Asian boy with the afro”.

1. On page 102, Wei-Chen says to Amelia, “Jin has a good soul.”  Provide some of the reasons he says this about him.

Firstly, as a friend of Jin, WC is going to help him and say something good in front of Amelia. Secondly, WC is gratitude for Jin’s becoming a good friend after he came to America. At that time, WC is not familiar to this place and language, Jin helped him a lot.

1. Describe the upper-left panel on page 105.  Describe as precisely as possible what you think gives Jin his “jolt of confidence” (ie: don’t just answer, “his hair”).

There’re bolts emitted form Jin’s curvy hair as if he is charging or like the cartoon character Pikachu who also has flashes around it before it attacks.

1. Describe as many similarities as you can between pages 112 and 113 in terms of panel, gutter, balloons, and any other aspects (speech, position of characters, perspective, etc.).  What effect do these pages have on the *pacing*of the story’s events (ie: how fast time passes)?

Those panels depict the scenes in four different classes which are geology, biology, math and Spanish. In those four classes, Chin-Kee raises his hands high confidently, while the lines on Danny’s face, the sweats, and his facial expressions shows he is becoming more and more embarrassed. In each of the scene, the panel on the left is a view from student to teacher. Then, the view switches suddenly and greatly from teacher to students. This indicate the time between teacher’s raising a question and Chin-Kee answers it is very short. The short reaction time shows Chin-Kee is knowledgeable in all those subjects.

1. Compare the dialogue, physical interactions, etc. between Danny and Steve on 115 and Greg and Timmy 32-33 and 38.  What similarities can you find?

On page 115 and on page 38, those boys are all taking about or having sports. The greeting gesture on page 115 shows the easy atmosphere between Danny and Steve which is similar to the relation shows on page 38 where all of them are laughing.

1. Describe briefly the effect of the *balloons* on the upper-left panel of page 116.  What is happening in the interactions between Danny and Steve at this moment?

The bubble on the top belongs to Steve while the rest of them on this panel are Danny’s. It shows that Danny intentionally interrupt the conversation Steve is going to start with Chin-Kee.

1. Describe Melanie’s action from pages 122-124 in terms of a Root Action Statement.  In terms of your Root Action Statement, why does Melanie finally tell Danny his teeth “buck out a little” and try to help him?

Melanie rejected Danny’s invitation for going out for a movie but still want to maintain friendship with him. Danny fells upset because of her rejection and thinks this is all because of Chin-Kee. Danny wants a closer relationship more than just being normal friends. Their conversation ends up with an arguing. Melanie said his teeth buck out to indicate “I’ll not go out with someone with buck teeth” which is a way of saying no to Danny.

1. Summarize briefly why Danny is so depressed on pages 126-128.    What does Steve say and do to cheer him up?

The direct reason of his depression is Melanie rejected him. The profound reason is he is afraid and hate Chin-Kee’s ruining his life. Danny contributes her rejection to his relationship with Chin-Kee. Danny has long been disturbed by Chin-Kee’s annual visit. Steve cheer him up by saying the people here are different, they don’t have bias on others. He also proposed buying Danny a coke.

ABC 130-198

Monkey King’s chapter

1. From page 136-137, there are four (five) speaking voices: Wong Lai-Tsao, (the bamboo on 134), and the “Lion,” “Lady,” and “Eagle” emissaries of Tze-Yo-Tzuh, as well as one more.  Who is this fifth speaking voice?  What effect does this voice have on the tone (emotional quality, authority, etc.) of this chapter?

The fifth speaking voice is the narrator. The narrator uses an omniscient perspective to tell the story of Wong Lai-Tsao. This helps to make the story more objective.

1. Pages 141-142 show Lai-Tsao’s journey as long and laborious.  Describe how these graphic pages create this feeling.

The author uses two perspectives to describe the background. On the top two panels, the time varies from dawn to evening, indicating he has traveled for a long time. Besides, the four scenes in the panels show the great distance Lai-Tsao has traveled. In the first one, he is on a mountain, then in the forest, in a desert. The last panel shows he is followed by evil creatures.

1. Do you find his journey dangerous or difficult?  Why or why not?

His journey is dangerous. In the panels on page 142, he is climbing mountain, barbecuing in a forest, crossing a desert alone. Those condition has nothing to do with comfort. But he not only faces the challenges in nature, he is also followed by evil creatures who want to eat him.

1. 149: Claim: The panels on this page make Lai-Tsao appear wise and strong rather than weak.  Support this claim by contrasting the balloons of this page with its panels.

In this scene, Lai-Tsao is dying. From his bubble we see that he is not able to say a whole sentence fluently and his sentence is separated into three bubbles, indicating it is hard for him to talk. But from the content of the bubble, he is not concerning himself and say something like “help save me”. Instead, he is still encouraging Monkey King to find his own identity, which means he thinks this is even more important than his own life.

1. Note the change in Monkey King’s attitude from “I shall enjoy watching the demons pick your flesh from their teeth.  It is a fate befitting such a moronic twit” (147) to “Master.  Let me help you to your feet” (158).  What happens in the pages between that account for (cause) this change in attitude?  Consider as many of the events as you can – ie: it’s more than just, “he sees the monk hurt and feels sorry for him.”

In page 149, after the monk is stabbed and almost dying, he still tries to encourage Monkey King to find his true identity. His behavior shows he is not fear at death at all, but still remember his mission. This fearless behavior makes Monkey King respects him a lot. He is also moved by the monk’s sacrifice for him.

Jin’s chapter:

1. For the first half of this chapter (approximately 164 to 178), construct a Root Action Statement for Amelia.  Try to include as many elements of a Root Action Statement as possible.  What does she achieve through her actions and/or choices?

Amelia agrees to go out with Jin to watch a movie. She is polite and nice to Jin and treat him as a friend naturally. But Jin interpreted her action expansively and thinks Amelia has some feelings on him. He wants to become Amelia’s boyfriend.

1. Compare and contrast Greg’s behavior toward Jin in (179-184) with Timmy’s and his other classmates.  Why does Greg say what he does to Jin?  How might his message be similar, but his delivery different?

Greg’s asks Jin to “do him a favor” of not seeing Amelia anymore. This behavior is offensive and direct. Different from Timmy’s rude attitude, Greg’s attitude seems to be “polite”. However, on page 184, after Jin has left, Greg is speaking ill of Jin to other classmates. Therefore, he is like Timmy who both looks down on Jin but unlike Timmy, Greg seems more moderate.

1. Read carefully Jin’s words to Wei-Chen on the bottom left of page 191.  Why does he say almost the exact same words that Greg said to him on 179-180?

Greg has asked Jin not to dating with Amelia because he thought Jin is inferior to Caucasian American boys which makes Jin so upset and angry. He wants to vent out his angry to someone else and experience Greg’s pride. In Jin’s mind, he always treats Wei-Chen as a F.O.B. Therefore, by doing similar to what Greg did to him makes him feels better.

1. Over pages 194-198, the story of ABC begins to take a more “surreal” turn – neither mythical like the Monkey King, nor realistic like the earlier Jin chapters, nor satirical like the Danny chapters.  Why does Jin/Danny appear so pleased on page 198?  What is the effect of the “clap” balloons at the bottom of this page?

In this process, Jin changes his appearance form a black-haired, yellow-skinned Chinese appearance to a blonde, fair-skinned Caucasian boy’s appearance. He is delighted because he finally gets rid of his Chinese heritage. He used to attribute his not being accepted by white American classmates to his Chinese heritage. Therefore, the clap on the panel on page 198 indicates it is a happy moment for Jin at this time.

ABC 201-233

1. Notice the balloon at the bottom of (203). Why is the “audience” in this panel clapping as well as laughing?

They laugh because of Chin-Kee’s awkward performance. Chin-Kee is singing “She Bangs” in a strong Chinese accent and his movement is awkward and self-complacence. Also, he is performing in an improper place, he stands on a table at library. This embarrassing situation is weird in real life but funny in sitcom. The “audience” claps for his well imitation to William Hung in American Idol. His movement and accent are referencing to William.

1. Look at all the fighting moves Chin-Kee performs from 206 to 211. What might some of these names refer to?  Choose 2-3.  For example, “‘Vg101 Head Stomp’ refers to a Freshman core course in Electrical Engineering at Shanghai Jiaotong University’s Joint Institute.”

Most of those names referring to prevailing Chinese dishes in the USA. For example, “Kung Pao Attack” refers to a famous dish “Kung Pao Chicken”. The “Happy Famiry Head Bonk” refers to a Chinese dish invented in America, “Happy Family”.

1. Contrast the way Danny is fighting with Chin-Kee, ie: what is Danny’s fighting “style”?

Chin-Kee fighting style is much complicate and fancier which likes Kungfu. On the contrary, Danny’s style is straight forward and only uses punches.

1. According to the Monkey King, Jin met his son Wei-Chen “during the first week” of his arrival (217). Then Wei-Chen tells his father “I told a lie” (218).  This occurs on the Monkey King’s “third visit” (218).  Answer the following questions in sequence:
   1. How often does the Monkey King visit his son?

He visited his son annually.

* 1. What was the “lie” Wei-Chen tells? To whom?

Wei-Chen lies to Jin’s mother that Jin is with him instead of going out with Amelia.

d. Based on the above answers, how old is Jin when he first meets Wei-Chen? How old are they when the fight, and have their “falling out”?

Jin arrived at Mayflower Elementary School at his third grade and met Wei-Chen two months after that. Therefore, they are about 9 years old when they first met. At their seventh grade, Jin gets involved in the Amelia stuff and end up with a fight with Wei-Chen. So, they are about 16 years old at that time.

1. Look carefully at the perspective, the foreground, and the dialogue on the bottom two panels of page 221. Based on what you see, what is Jin thinking?  What does he realize?

In the bottom right panel, it shows the perspective of Jin. He is looking at the “beheaded” Chin-Kee which turns out to be Monkey King’s disguise. Related to what Monkey King says to him on the bottom left panel, “I came to serve as your conscience – As a signpost to your soul” (Yang, 221). At this time, Jin realize the character Chin-Kee is not Monkey King intended to become. Rather, Jin internalized his stereotypes on his unescapable Chinese heritage and creates the character Chin-Kee. Now he stare at the Chin-Kee’s head and realize it is not real, and his Chinese ethnic identity is not what he thought to be.

6. Describe Jin’s mood or feeling on the bottom middle panel of page 223. How does the panel’s use of line, perspective, and representation of body parts show this feeling?  Justify and explain your analysis as much as possible.

After Monkey King tells him that he realized “how good it is to be a monkey”, Jin’s facial expression turns to be thoughtful and some regret. On the bottom middle panel, Jin’s eyebrow is low, he tightens his lips. He is looking to his left to avoid the eye contact with Monkey King. The bottom left and right panel shows Jin’s perspective. In the right panel, when Monkey King is leaving, he only has half figure in this panel, which indicates Jin is seeing somewhere else and doesn’t see Monkey King off.

7. Describe Wei-Chen’s appearance and behavior from pages 228 to 229. How has he changed over the years?  Does he remind you of anything you’ve read about or seen, or experienced?

Wei-Chen possess a fancy sports car now, indicating he has achieved his economic success. His outfit is more stylish. He has a gold necklace, bright earing, fancy glass. He dressed up like a gangster and also smokes. However, he is still dressing in orange which reminds of the dressing in his childhood and adolescence.

1. (23-25) What is Jin’s conflict in these pages?  Who or what is his primary antagonist?

Jin’s family has just moved from San Francisco Chinatown to a new neighborhood. Due to this reason, he lost his friends who used to play with him. Therefore, loneliness is his primary antagonist.

1. Using a Root Action Statement, explain why Jin tries to avoid Suzy Nakamura at school.

The classmates alien Jin and Suzy because their Asian look. Jin tries to avoid Suzy to avoid the rumor that they are going to be married.

1. Using a Root Action Statement, explain why Jin wants to “beat up” Wei-Chen Sun (36).  What is the “something” that makes him feel this way?

Wei-Chen emphasized he is from Taiwan but not China indicates he violates the One-China Principle. However, Jin is an American and may not have such politic sensitivity. So, when Wei-Chen says this, Jin find Wei-Chen doesn’t respect the country he come from. Also, he is related to Wei-Chen due to their Chinese look. Therefore, Jin is angry with Wei-Chen for his disrespect to his country and think Wei-Chen’s behavior will influence others view on himself.

1. Using a Root Action Statement, explain why Jin finally speaks to Wei-Chen by page 40.

Jin is interested in Wei-Chen’s toy robot and he find the common interest they both shares.

1. Why does Peter offer to become Jin’s friend?  What does he want from Jin?  Why does Jin accept?

Because Peter wants to eat Wei-Chen’s sandwich and he trade this “friendship” for the sandwich he wants. Peter wants someone to bully so he plays these offensive bully game with Jin. Jin accept because he is too lonely and want to make friends with some white American.

1. What does the school / the class / the other children want from Jin?  What is getting in their way?  By page 40, to what degree have they succeeded in getting what they want?

Other children alienate Jin because of his Asian look to show their superiority in terms of discourse power. However, they failed because Jin is allied with Wei-Chen therefore Jin is no longer a lonely boy.