

## READING COMPREHENSION

<b>Subject</b>	<b>: Reading II</b>
<b>Semester</b>	<b>: 2</b>
<b>Aims</b>	<b>: Comprehending a short story Retelling a short story</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>: 15 minutes or more</b>
<b>Materials</b>	<b>: ¶ Worksheet ¶ Answer key</b>
<b>Source</b>	<b>: A story text</b>

### Instructions

- Read the Introduction carefully before doing the reading.
- Read all of the instructions carefully before doing the exercises.
- Do all of the exercises.
- After completing all of the exercises, check your answers on the answer keys.

### Source

http: [www.indianchild.com/rose\\_within.htm](http://www.indianchild.com/rose_within.htm)

Guided Comprehension: A Teaching Model for Grade 3-8 by Maureen McLaughlin

**Developed by**  
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## INTRODUCTION

This source of material is intended to practice the *reading comprehension skill* as well as to get pleasure of reading activity. The worksheet merely consists of a reading text completed with some exercises related to the reading text. The users of this source of material need to complete all of the activities in order to reach the purposes of this reading material making, i.e. practicing reading comprehension skill and retelling the story with their own words. The users also need to read all of the instructions carefully before they do all of the exercises. Enjoy the reading.

## WORKSHEET

### A. Preliminary Activity

1. The text is about family life. Please answer these questions before you read.
  - a. Do you love your mother?
  - b. Why?
2. Study these words. These are some words that you may find in the text.

**embarrassment, laughingstock, punished, crying, grow up, mother, son, disappeared, house, love**

3. By using these words, could you predict what the text is about? Write down your prediction.

I believe that the story is about...

## B. Reading Activity

Read this text carefully and answer all of the questions accompanying the text.

### The Reading Text

#### MY MOTHER

My mom only had one eye. I hated her.... She was such an embarrassment. My mom ran a small shop at a flea market. She collected little weeds and such to sell.... Anything for the money we needed she was such an embarrassment. There was this one day during elementary school. I remember that it was field day, and my mom came. I was so embarrassed. How could she do this to me? I threw her a hateful look and ran out. The next day at school ... "Your mom only has one eye?!" and they taunted me

I wished that my mom would just disappear from this world so I said to my mom, "Mom, why don't you have the other eye?! You're only going to make a laughingstock. Why don't you just die?" My mom did not respond. I guess I felt a little bad, but at the same time, it felt good to think that I had said what I'd wanted to say all this time.

Maybe it was because my mom hadn't punished me, but I didn't think that I had hurt her feelings very badly.

That night ... I woke up, and went to the kitchen to get a glass of water. My mom was crying there, so quietly, as if she was afraid that she might wake me. I took a look at her, and then turned away. Because of the thing I said to her earlier, there was something pinching at me in the corner of my heart. Even so, I hated my mother who was crying out of her one eye. So I told myself that I would grow up and become successful, because I hated my one-eyed mom and our desperate poverty.

**Stop your reading and answer this question.**

- What do you think the son will do after this?

I think he will ...

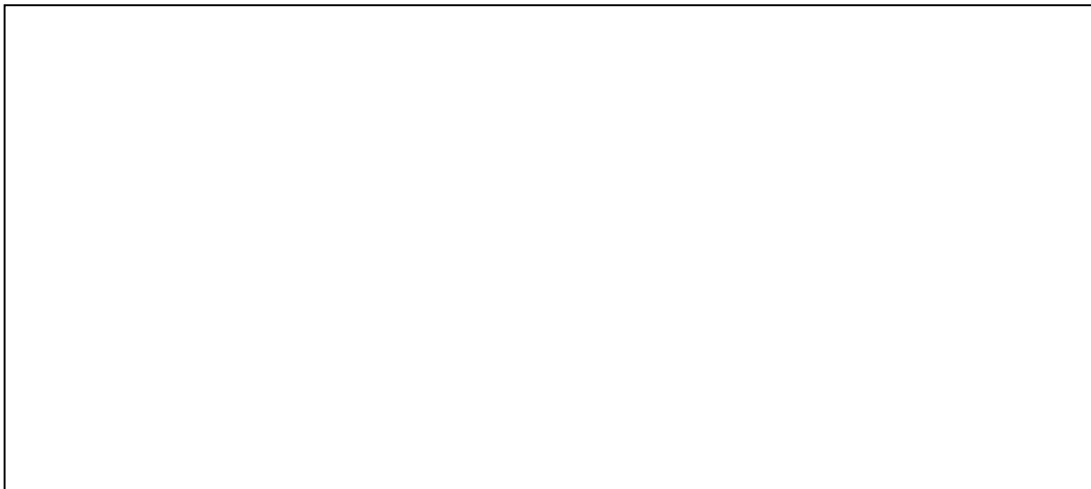
**Continue your reading. Check whether you have made the right prediction.**

Then I studied really hard. I left my mother and came to Seoul and studied, and got accepted in the Seoul University with all the confidence I had. Then, I got married. I bought a house of my own. Then I had kids, too. Now, I'm living happily as a successful man. I like it here because it's a place that doesn't remind me of my mom.

This happiness was getting bigger and bigger, when someone unexpected came to see me "What?! Who's this?! ... It was my mother ... Still with her one eye. It felt as if the whole sky was falling apart on me. My little girl ran away, scared of my mom's eye.

**Stop your reading and answer this question.**

- What do you think will happen next? What will he say/do to his mother?



**Continue your reading. Check whether you have made the right prediction again.**

And I asked her, "Who are you? I don't know you!!!" as if I tried to make that real. I screamed at her "How dare you come to my house and scare my daughter! GET OUT OF HERE! NOW!!!" And to this, my mother quietly answered, "oh, I'm sorry. I may have gotten the wrong address," and she disappeared. Thank goodness ... she doesn't

recognize me. I was quite relieved. I told myself that I wasn't going to care, or think about this for the rest of my life.

Then a wave of relief came upon me ... one day, a letter regarding a school reunion came to my house. I lied to my wife saying that I was going on a business trip. After the reunion, I went down to the old shack, that I used to call a house ... just out of curiosity there, I found my mother fallen on the cold ground. But I did not shed a single tear. She had a piece of paper in her hand ... it was a letter to me.

She wrote:

*My son ...*

*I think my life has been long enough now. And ... I won't visit Seoul anymore ... but would it be too much to ask if I wanted you to come visit me once in a while? I miss you so much. And I was so glad when I heard you were coming for the reunion. But I decided not to go to the school ... For you ... I'm sorry that I only have one eye, and I was an embarrassment for you.*

*You see, when you were very little, you got into an accident, and lost your eye. As a mother, I couldn't stand watching you having to grow up with only one eye ... so I gave you mine ... I was so proud of my son that was seeing a whole new world for me, in my place, with that eye. I was never upset at you for anything you did. The couple times that you were angry with me. I thought to myself, 'it's because he loves me.' I miss the times when you were still young around me.*

*I miss you so much. I love you. You mean the world to me.*

My world shattered!!!

Then I cried for the person who lived for me ... **MY MOTHER**

**Stop your reading and answer these questions.**

➤ **What can you say about the son?**

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➤ **Why did he cry after reading the letter?**

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➤ **What do you think the man should do after reading the letter?**

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**C. Story Map**

Fill in the blank spaces with the correct information from the reading text.

1. Title: \_\_\_\_\_

2.

Setting	Characters
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3.

Problem
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4.

Event 1

Event 2

Event 3

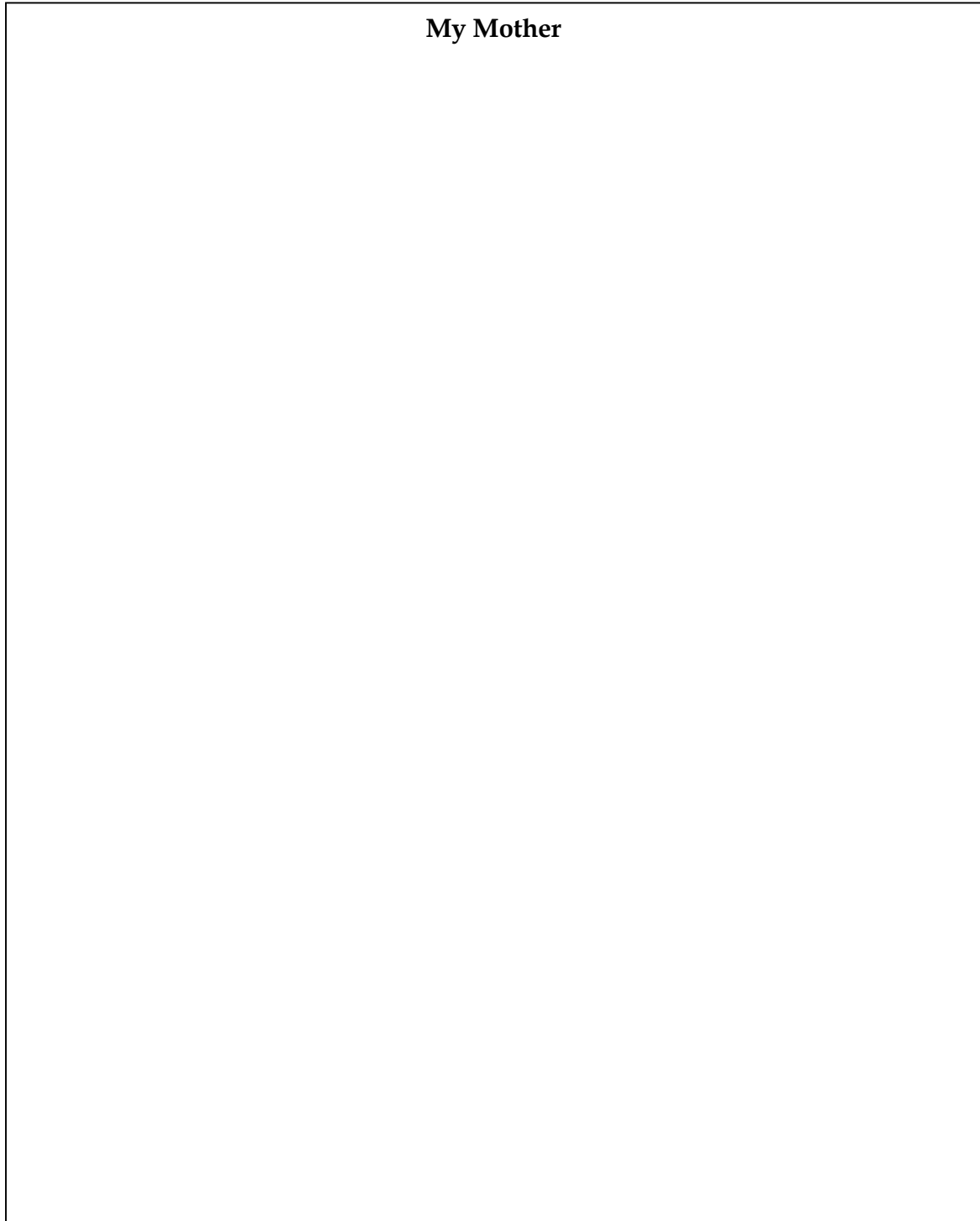
5.

Solution

#### **D. Retelling the Story**

- Use the story map to retell the story with your own words.

**My Mother**





## ANSWER KEY

1. Title : My Mother
2. Setting : A small village in Korean and Seoul , the capital city of Korean  
Characters : - a son/a man who is very mean to his mother  
- a very kind mother who loves her son very much and are willing to do anything for him.
3. Problem : The son is ashamed of his mother physical condition and poverty.
4. Event 1 : The mother came to his son school and the son felt embarrassed.  
Event 2 : The son left his hometown and went to Seoul to become a successful man.  
Event 3 : The man came back to his hometown and old house.
5. Solution : The man came into his old house, found a letter from his mother. After reading the letter, the man realized that he has been so fortunate to have such a wonderful mother, who has given him the world.