

## Example 2

- 1 On a cold spring afternoon, while walking home from school, I detoured through the playground at the end of the alley. I saw a group of old men, two seated across a folding table playing a game of chess, others smoking pipes, eating peanuts, and watching. I ran home and grabbed **Vincent**'s chess set, which was **bound** in a cardboard box with rubber bands, I also carefully selected two prized rolls of **life savers**. I came back to the park and approached a man who was **observing** the game.
- 2 "Want to play?" I asked him. His face widened with surprise and he **grinned** as he looked at the box under my arm. "Little sister, been a long time since I play with dolls," he said, smiling benevolently. I quickly put the box down next to him on the bench and displayed my **retort**.
- 3 Lau Po, as he allowed me to call him, turned out to be a much better player than my brothers. I lost many games and many **life savers**. But over the weeks, with each **diminishing** role of candies, I added new secrets. Lau Po gave me the names. The humble servant who kills the king and more.
- 4 there were also the fine points of chess **etiquette**. Keep **captured men** in neat rows, as **well-tended** prisoners. Never announce "Check" with **vanity**, lest someone with an unseen sword **slit** your throat. By the end of the summer, Lau Po had taught me all he knew, and I had become a better chess player.
- 5 a small weekend crowd of Chinese people and tourists would gather as I played and **defeated** my **opponents** one by one. My mother would join crowds during these outdoors exhibition games. She sat proudly on that bench, telling my admirers with proper Chinese humility, "is luck".
- 6 A man who watched me play in the park suggested that my mother allow me to play in local chess tournaments. My mother smiled graciously, an answer that meant nothing. I desperately wanted to go, but I **bit back my tongue**. I know she would not let me play among strangers. So as we walked home I said in a small voice that I didn't want to play in the local tournament. They would have American rules. If I lost, I would bring shame on my family.
- 7 During my first tournament, my mother sat with me in the front row as I waited for my turn. I frequently bounced my legs to unstick them from the cold metal seat of the folding chair. When my name was called, I **leapt** up. My mother unwrapped something in her lap. It was her *chang*, a small tablet of red **jade** which held the sun's fire. "is luck," she whispered, and tucked it into my dress pocket. I turned to my opponent, a fifteen-year-old boy from Oakland.
- 8 As I began to play, the boy disappeared, the color ran out of the room, and I saw only my white pieces and his black ones waiting on the other side. "Blow from the South," it **murmured**. "The wind leaves no trail." I saw a clear path, the traps to **avoid**. The wind blew stronger. "Throw sand from the East to **distract** him." "Check," I said.

- 1- When the boy detoured through the playground at the end of the ally, he saw a couple of .....  
:
  - a. Old men
  - b. young boys
  - c. old women

d. children

2- The name of the narrator's brother is .....

- a. Jack
- b. Vincent
- c. Lau Po
- d. Stan

3- The boy ran home to grab his brother's .....

- a. table
- b. chess set
- c. cardboard
- d. ball

4- In the passage the words *life savers* means : a kind of .....

- a. game
- b. candy
- c. chess
- d. doll

5- The boy played chess in the park against a man called .....

- a. Stan
- b. Vincent
- c. Lau Po
- d. Jack

6- When a player takes an opponent's playing piece, that piece is called a :

- a. check
- b. man
- c. captured man
- d. falling man

7- By the end of ....., Lau Po taught the boy all he knew.

- a. Winter
- b. Spring
- c. Summer
- d. Autumn

8- When a person wins a game of chess, he or she says :

- a. Captured man

- b. lose
- c. check
- d. die

9- *To bite back one's tongue* means to :

- a. Keep quiet
- b. talk
- c. argue
- d. leave

10- The boy didn't want to play in the local tournament because they have .....

- a. Spanish rules
- b. Asian rules
- c. American rules
- d. Chinese rules

11- The boy's mother used her chang to give him .....

- a. bad luck
- b. luck
- c. money
- d. magic

12- The opposite of the word *defeat* is .....

- a. victory
- b. lose
- c. draw
- d. surrender

13- The synonym of the word *defeat* is .....

- a. win
- b. try
- c. beat
- d. decrease

14- The synonym of the word *opponent* is .....

- a. friend
- b. colleague
- c. challenger
- d. oppression

15- The meaning of the word *slit* is .....

- a. cut
- b. burn
- c. kill
- d. harm