

1.

The Thing About Luck by Cynthia Kadohata

Cynthia Kadohata goes straight to the heart of twelve-year-old Summer, her troubled brother, and her Japanese-American grandparents during one wheat harvest. Here, Kadohata has given a vivid and realistic description of one family's migrant experience. But even more, she's created a gentle and humorous book, exploring generational and cultural differences, and the weighty yet precious ties of family.

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson

Raised in South Carolina and New York, Jacqueline Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s. Touching and powerful, each poem is accessible, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world. Woodson's poetry also reflects the joy of finding her voice through writing.

Lob by Linda Newbery

Lucy loves visiting her grandparents in the country and especially loves spending time with her grandfather, who introduces her to Lob, his mysterious helper. Her grandmother laughs at the idea of the hidden green man, but Lucy believes absolutely long before she finally catches her first glimpse of him. When Lucy's world is turned upside down, Lob is her comfort and her connection to an important part of her childhood.

The Dark Wild by Piers Torday

Set in a future Britain where wildlife is almost extinct and where food is desperately short. The Dark Wild continues the story of Kester, a twelve-year-old boy who is so shocked by the death of his mother that he loses the ability to speak. However, Kester discovers that he can talk with animals. It's a powerful story of survival and asks young readers to think about the environment and our relationships with animals.

21. Which of the following is a book of poems?

- A. Lob. B. The Dark Wild
C. Brown Girl Dreaming. D. The Thing About Luck.

22. Who wrote the story about a girl and a helper?

- A. Piers Torday. B. Linda Newbery
C. Cynthia Kadohata D. Jacqueline Woodson

23. The Dark Wild will probably attract those who _____.

- A. focus on food safety B. like traveling abroad
C. have difficulty in speaking D. are fond of adventure stories

2.

My dad is the kind of parent that has to know where I am and what time I'll be home. He is strict with me because he cares about me more than anything in the world. My dad's strictness comes from the way he was raised. He grew up working long hours on his family farm and his dad would throw wooden boards at him when he did something wrong. In high school, my dad woke up at four in the morning to get his chores done and walked to school so that he would make it to basketball practice by five. After school he went home to start a long night of chores.

On top of all the responsibilities my dad had at home, he played three sports and went to school. School would have been easy, but my dad had dyslexia (诵读困难). Every teacher my dad had thought that he was just unable to learn. My dad struggled in school until one teacher took the time to sit down and teach him how to read and write. To this day my dad tells me how grateful he is to that teacher who gave him a chance.

The best part about my dad is his attitude toward our family. When he comes home from a terrible day at work, he always puts a smile on his face because he knows the family is a lot more important than his own problems.

I know that I get my best qualities from my dad. He has shown me that with hard work I can accomplish something, and have fun while doing it. I know that my dad has strict rules because he loves me, and wants me to learn responsibility.

24. The author's father seems to _____.

- A. get angry very easily
B. be deeply affected by his father
C. have a bad relationship with his father
D. be very curious about the author's life

25. What do we know about the author's father in high school?

- A. He hated going to school.
B. He had to do heavy housework.
C. He often stayed up late for study.