

Watercress

Class: _____ No.: _____
Name: _____ Date: _____

Discuss the following questions.

1. Has your mom or dad ever told you about their childhood life before? What kind of family did they grow up in?
2. Has any of your family or friend ever asked / invited you to do something embarrassing in public? If yes, what was it? How did you react?
3. On the left is the picture of the plant **watercress**, which is also the title of the book. Use your own words to describe how watercress looks.

During-reading Watch the video and then answer the following questions.

1. In the book, the girl is red in the face several times because of what her family do. Which are the things that make her feel embarrassed about? Check the boxes.
 (A) Collecting watercress in the ditch with her family.
 (B) Eating vegetables instead of meat for dinner.
 (C) Listening to her mother talking about his little brother in China.
 (D) Taking home the used chairs that other people threw away.
 (E) Wearing second-hand clothes that are given by others.
2. From the story, we know more about the plant watercress. Read and circle.
(1) Watercress has **long / short** stems.
(2) Watercress' **flowers / leaves** look like coins.
(3) There are some **bugs / snails** on the underside of watercress.
(4) Watercress tastes a little **spicy / sweet**.
3. When the girl's mother is telling her childhood story in China, she brings up a word which is called "famine." She says, "During the great **famine**, we ate everything we could. But it was still not enough." Which of the following four people is also facing **famine** now? Ans.: _____
(A) Sandra. She wants to cook a big meal, but she is too lazy to go to the market on a rainy day.
(B) Thomas. He hasn't eaten for three days, but he decides to give the only bread to his little sister.
(C) Nancy. She has become very hungry after PE class, but sadly she forgot to bring her lunchbox.
(D) Adam. He can eat only vegetables for lunch because the supermarket is out of meat.
4. In the story, the girl and her parents have very different feelings about collecting watercress. What do you think they are thinking at the dinner table? Fill in the blanks.

| The Parents | The Girl |
|---|--|
| <p>When we saw watercress on the side of the road, we felt very (1) _____!</p> <p>When we were little, we ate anything we could find. The fried watercress on our dinner table is not only (2) _____ but also (3) _____. Isn't it a perfect dish?</p> | <p>When my parents asked me to go into the ditch, I felt very (4) _____. I just wanted to find a place to hide! Why couldn't we buy vegetables from a (5) _____? But after hearing my mom's story about her past, I felt (6) _____ for being angry at her.</p> |

After-reading

1. Answer the questions below and ask three other classmates the same questions in your class.

(1) What food don't you like?

_____.

(2) What does the food taste like or how does it taste?

_____.

| Name | What food don't you like? | What does the food taste like or how does it taste? |
|------|---------------------------|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

2. Unlike the girl's parents, modern people don't usually cherish things or keep things with care as much as before. Draw and write about one object that you have used for years but still like it very much.

What is the name of the object? _____

How old is the object? _____

How did you get it? _____

Why have you kept the object for so long?

Does it have any special meaning for you?

