**“Fish Cheeks” Reading Comprehension Questions**

***Select 2 of the following questions to respond to in your Interactive Notebook. You must restate the question and respond in at least 5 complete sentences.***

**Questions on Writing Strategy**

**1.** How does Tan draw the reader into her story right from the beginning?

**2.** How does Tan use transitions both to drive and to clarify her narrative?

**3.** What is the irony of the last sentence of the essay?

**4.** Paragraph 3 is a passage of pure description. Why does Tan linger over the food? What is the effect of this paragraph?

***Select 1 of the following questions to respond to in your Interactive Notebook. You must restate the question and respond in at least 5 complete sentences.***

**Questions on Language**

**1.** The simile about Mary in the second sentence of the essay is surprising. Why? Why is it amusing?

**2.** How does the narrator's age affect the tone of this essay? Give examples of language particularly appropriate to a fourteen-year-old.

***Select 1 of the following questions to respond to in your Interactive Notebook. You must restate the question and respond in at least 5 complete sentences.***

**Suggestions for Writing**

**1.** **Short Essay:** Think of an occasion when, for whatever reason, you were ashamed of being different. How did you react? Did you try to hide your difference in order to fit in, or did you reveal or celebrate your uniqueness?

**2.** **Take a perspective like that of the minister's son, Robert:** Write a short narrative about a time when you had to adjust to participating in a culture different from your own. It could be a meal, a wedding or other rite of passage, a religious ceremony, a trip to another country. What did you learn from your experiences, about yourself and others?