

Fortune Cookies



Give three reasons for this book to be called *Fortune Cookies*?

After you have read the short story *Hungry Ghosts* do some further research on this festival and write a page about when this festival is celebrated, how, and why?

Pick two of the following sayings, then write how you think they relate to

- (a) the short story that follows them
- (b) your own life.

'The greatness within you awaits recognition.'

'The guilty one is sometimes the victim.'

'When there is snow underfoot frost is not far off.'

'One word is enough for a wise person.'

'A mirror does not show the heart.'

'Water shapes itself to the vessel that contains it.'

'Perseverance brings good fortune.'

'First knowledge, then strength.'

'A journey begins with one step.'

List five ways that change can be brought about within a society or country?

Organise a debate on the following topic 'Change is always good'.

In small groups, discuss what attitudes towards death are portrayed in *Fortune Cookies*. How are they different from or the same as those from people you know? How do you feel about these attitudes? Elect a spokesperson to present the combined views of the group.

What are five rituals of Australian culture? And what do these reveal about us?

What do you think you would find difficult if you moved to another country? What would help you cope?

What connection would the following have with the stories in *Fortune Cookies*?

- (a) Amnesty International
- (b) Friendship groups (eg. Australia/China Friendship Society)
- (c) Libraries
- (d) Internet
- (e) School
- (f) AFS International Exchanges

Interview someone who was born in another country about their experiences in settling into Australia. From this interview create either:

- (a) a poem
- (b) a short story
- (c) an article
- (d) a painting or sculpture.